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Order, 1/9/79

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

Royal Arch Masons,

OF

MARYLAND.

HELD IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

Special Convocation, January 31st, 1878.
Annual Convocation, November 12th, 1878.

BALTIMORE:
FROM THE STEAM PRESS BALTIMORE PRINTING COMPANY,
90 & 92 West Baltimore street,
1879.



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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF MARYLAND.

SPECIAL CONVOCATION.

Masonic Temple, }
BALTIMORE, January 31, A. L. 2408, A. D. 1878. }

A Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, was held this day at 6 o'clock P. M.

PRESENT:

Companion JOHN S. TYSON, - - - - - M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest.
" EDWIN L. PARKER, JR. - - - R.: E.: Dep.: G.: H.: Priest.
" EDMUND J. OPPELT, - - - R.: E.: G.: King.
" FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS, - R.: E.: G.: Scribe.
" CHARLES T. SISCO, - - - - R.: E.: G.: Treasurer.
" WILLIAM A. WENTZ, - - - R.: E.: G.: Secretary.
" WILLIAM F. COCHRAN, - - - E.: G.: Captain of the Host.
" STEPHEN C. BUSII, - - - - E.: G.: Prin. Sojourner.
" GEORGE W. SHEIVE, - - - E.: G.: R.: A.: Captain.
" HENRY W. WORTHINGTON, - G.: M.: of 3d Vail.
" WILLIAM F. C. GERHARDT, - G.: M.: of 2d Vail.
" HENRY O. REESE, - - - - G.: M.: of 1st Vail.
" CHARLES E. KEMP, - - - - G.: Janitor.

Past Grand High Priests, GEORGE L. MCCALLAN, JAMES W. BOWERS,
CHARLES F. ACHEY.

Past Dep. Grand High Priest, EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.

And Representatives of Nos. 1, 9, 19, 21 and 28.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form.

The M.: E.: Grand High Priest stated that the Grand Chapter had been called by him, for the purpose of receiving the Committee of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, who visit the Grand Chapter of Maryland, for the purpose of presenting the old record book, referred to in the proceedings of our last Annual Convocation.

On motion of Companion WM. F. COCHRAN, Grand Captain of the Host, it was

Ordered, That the Committee consisting of P.: G.: H.: Priests GEORGE L. McCAHAN, JAMES W. BOWERS, and P.: Dep.: G.: H.: Priest EDWARD T. SCHULTZ, draft upon the Grand Treasurer for the amount necessary to defray the expenses of the entertainment this evening.

The following visiting Companions from the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, were introduced and received with the Grand Honors.

Companion ISAAC L. JOHNSON, - - -	P.: G.: H.: Priest.	} Committee.
" JOHN LOCKIE, - - -	P.: G.: H.: Priest.	
" ABNER T. LONGLEY, - - -	P.: G.: H.: Priest.	
" GEORGE B. CLARK, - - -	P.: G.: H.: Priest.	
" MATTHEW TRIMBLE, - - -	R.: E.: D.: G.: H.: Priest.	
" JAMES P. PEARSON, - - -	R.: E.: G.: Scribe.	
" CHARLES W. HANCOCK, - - -	R.: E.: G.: Secretary.	
" J. C. ALLEN, - - -	E.: G.: Captain of the Host.	
" BURTON R. ROSS, - - -	E.: G.: Prin. Sojourner.	
" ANDREW GLASS, - - -	P.: G.: King.	
" WM. H. STEARNE, - - -	G.: M.: of 3d Vail.	
" THOS. A. GADDES, - - -	G.: M.: of 2d Vail.	
" CHAS. BECKER, - - -	E.: King of Potomac Chapter No. 8.	

And Companion NOBLE D. LARNER, P.: G.: H.: Priest of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and G.: G.: Scribe of the G.: G.: Chapter of the United States, who was also received with the Honors befitting his exalted station.

The M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest welcomed our distinguished Companions to their "Alma Mater," which was responded to by Companion NOBLE D. LARNER, G.: G.: Scribe.

The Grand Chapter was then called off for interchange of friendly greetings, after which—

The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN, P.: G.: H.: Priest presented the following report.

To the Grand Chapter of Maryland:

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, to solicit of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, the presentation of an old record book, recently brought to light and in which the date of the formation of this Grand Chapter is a matter of record, beg leave to report, that shortly after the close of the Convocation, at which they were appointed, they addressed the following communication to Companion ISAAC L. JOHNSON, M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia:

BALTIMORE, December 8th, 1877.

ISAAC L. JOHNSON, Esq., *Grand High Priest,*

Grand Chapter District of Columbia:

DEAR SIR & M.: E.: COMPANION:

With your advice and consent, the Companions of the Royal Craft in Maryland have been favored with an examination of the old record book of a "Royal Arch Encampment," held in the city of Washington, in the year 1795 to 1799, recently discovered in the archives of your Temple, extracts from which were published with the proceedings of your Grand Chapter for 1876.

Much pleasure was very properly anticipated from the perusal of the said old document, but to our surprise and gratification the examination developed the fact that the date of the organization of the Grand Chapter of Maryland was therein a matter of record, thus completing the chain of evidence which has been forming for some time past in regard to that event, and which had become a subject of absorbing interest to a large proportion of the members of our Grand Chapter.

Much reflection upon the former official connection existing for many years as members of one Grand Chapter, between the Companions of the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland, together with the warm personal relations then and now existing between many of the Companions of the two jurisdictions, has suggested that it would not be improper to request of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia the presentation of the old record book in question to the Grand Chapter of Maryland. Under this impression the Grand Chapter of Maryland, at its last Annual Convocation, passed unanimously the enclosed preamble and resolution.

As the committee appointed on the part of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, the undersigned beg leave to request that you will lay the matter before your Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation, and to indulge the hope that it will receive the favorable consideration they so much desire.

Very truly and fraternally,

GEORGE L. McCAHAN,

JAMES W. BOWERS,

EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,

Committee.

In accordance with the desire of the committee, Companion JOHNSON, presented the matter to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia at its Annual Convocation held in the City of Washington, on the 12th of December, 1877, and was pleased to give our cause favorable endorsement as shown in the following extract, from his address :

"I am in receipt of a communication dated Baltimore, Maryland, December 8th, 1877, signed by Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN and others, a Committee appointed by the Grand Chapter of Maryland, at their last Annual Convocation, fraternally requesting me to lay before you the following preamble and resolution, passed by that Grand Body :"

Extract from the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland.

MASONIC TEMPLE,

Baltimore, November 14th, A. I. 2407.

Past Grand High Priest Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN, proposed the following, which was unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, it has come to the knowledge of this Grand Chapter, that there has recently been discovered among the archives of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, the original Record Book of a Royal Arch Encampment, held in the city of Washington, in the years 1795 to 1799, which establishes the date of the original organization of this Grand Chapter, and which is the only evidence of that fact known to this Grand Chapter, and having full confidence in the generosity of our Companions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, therefore be it

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to solicit of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, the presentation of the above mentioned Record Book to this Grand Chapter.

The following Committee was appointed under the above resolution :

P.: G.: High Priests GEORGE L. McCAHAN, JAMES W. BOWERS, and
P.: Dep. G.: H.: Priest EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.



WILLIAM A. WENTZ,

Grand Secretary.

"The request made by our Maryland Companions in the foregoing resolutions, is, in my judgment, a reasonable one, and I see no good reason why it should not be granted. The Record Book referred to in the preamble and resolution, contains no reference whatever to our history as a Grand Chapter, but it does conclusively establish the date of the original organization of the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

"I therefore trust that you will give the subject your favorable consideration."

This recommendation was favorably received and heartily endorsed by the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and a Committee consisting of Companions J. L. JOHNSON, LARNER, CLARK, MCCOY, TRIMBLE, LONGLEY and LOCKIE, was appointed to present the Book in form to the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE L. McCAHAN,

JAMES W. BOWERS,

EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,

Committee.

On motion the report was accepted.

Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN then formally introduced Companion ISAAC L. JOHNSON, P.: G.: H.: Priest, Chairman of the Committee from the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, who presented the old record book in the following

ADDRESS:

Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions

of the Grand Chapter of Maryland:

But a few years ago the Royal Arch Craft of Maryland and the District of Columbia was under the government and direction of one Grand Body, known as the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland and the District of Columbia. The Companions of this Grand Body who resided within the territorial limits of the District of Columbia, naturally felt, inasmuch as the first three degrees in Masonry were under the control of a separate Grand Lodge for the District, that Royal Arch Masonry should be similarly localized in its government, and therefore be placed under the supervision of a

separate and independent Grand Chapter. Actuated by a desire to promote as far as possible the interests of the Craft in the District, and believing that a separate Grand Body would contribute largely to the accomplishment of the object desired, measures were inaugurated which resulted in the formation and institution of the new Grand Chapter. The success which has attended the movement, and the history, although comparatively brief, of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, have demonstrated the wisdom of the undertaking, and proven to the Masonic world that the expectations of the originators of the enterprise were based upon something more substantial than mere fanciful anticipations or the gratification of selfish ambition. In due time the spirit of fraternity united into harmonious co-operation the members of the two jurisdictions, the most cordial relations were established between the two Grand Bodies, and to-night the young offspring, through her representatives, presents herself before your Grand Council to assure her venerable mother that in her honorable old age the daughter delights to do her honor and will ever rejoice in her prosperity.

I have taken the liberty of making this brief allusion to the separation that took place in 1867, and to the formation of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, because our mission to you on this occasion has reference to the past as well as to the present. It has reference to the time when our venerable Masonic mother came into being, to the time when the pioneers of Royal Arch Masonry in this country met in Convention in the City of Baltimore, and on the 24th of June, 1797, organized this Grand Body. Having once been a part of this Grand Body, the Companions under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, take great pleasure in tracing their genealogy, not only to you but with you, back to the period to which I have just referred. We feel that we have a common interest with you in everything that relates to your origin and past history, and while we congratulate you, we also pride ourselves upon the fact that for more than eighty-three years Royal Arch Masonry under the jurisdiction of this Grand Body has maintained her independence from all sectarian and partizian influences, and that to-day, by reason of a strict adherence in the past to the principles of truth and justice, and by an unwavering confidence in our Supreme Grand High Priest, Masonry stands firm against the assaults of political avarice, narrow-minded and selfish bigotry, and the atheistic tendencies of the age.

Since the organization of our Grand Chapter, the Companions of the District of Columbia have not allowed their zeal for the welfare of the Craft to abate, nor have they permitted themselves to fall into a state of indifference as to the past. In their efforts to serve the present and to make a higher history for the future, they have explored the past, and in their researches have made discoveries having special reference to the early history of this Grand Body. An authentic record of the time when and by whom this Grand Body was organized has been brought to light, and deeming this information of importance to the Companions of Maryland, the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, at the last Annual Convocation, decided

to place this record book at your disposal. I have therefore, on behalf of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia and the Companions designated to represent her on this occasion, the honor to request that you will accept this record book, together with our assurance that the Companions of our jurisdiction will ever esteem it a great privilege to contribute any information that may come into their possession, and which may be of sufficient importance to occupy a place in your archives.

The M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest, on receiving the old record book, made the following reply :

M.: E.: Sir and Companions of the Grand Chapter

of the District of Columbia:

When I learned that your Grand Chapter had acceded to our request, which I never doubted it would do, and that you intended to visit this city for the purpose of making the presentation, a condescension upon your part as unexpected as it is most gratifying, I knew that I would contravene the wishes of the members of this Grand Chapter, if I failed to afford them an opportunity to participate with me in your reception.

I have, therefore, summoned this Special Convocation, which has this evening unanimously approved my action. And now, in the presence of this Grand Chapter and on its behalf, I accept your gift, and tender to you and to your Grand Chapter, our heartfelt thanks both for the gift, and for the very kind words with which you have been pleased to accompany its presentation. The gratification we feel in the possession of this treasure is enhanced by the pleasure of receiving it from you, sir, in person, accompanied by so many representative men of your jurisdiction.

By this incident I am irresistibly reminded of those three weary S——, whose researches among the ruins of the old Temple resulted so favorably. We feel that you, Companions of the District of Columbia, are of our brethren and kindred, true descendents of those noble Giblemites who wrought so faithfully at the building of our Grand Chapter. We greet you as workmen with important discoveries, and we are led to exclaim, in the language of the chief of those three ancient worthies, who formed our first Grand Council, and held their meetings at Jerusalem, “this is indeed a most valuable acquisition.”

I shall cause it to be suitably inscribed with those minutes of your Grand Chapter, and of ours, which bear reference to it, and to be deposited in our archives, there to remain, a perpetual witness to future generations, of the interesting facts which are recorded in it.

I can not still further carry out the analogy by saying that your valuable labors shall be rewarded; but we will endeavor to make your brief stay with us an agreeable one; and we trust, that you may bear away with you such pleasant recollections of this occasion, as will, in some degree, compensate you for the inconveniences of your journey in this very inclement

weather, M.: E.: Sir and Companions, we again return you our most sincere thanks.

Companion GEORGE L. McCAHAN, P.: G.: H.: Priest, presented the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, are eminently due and are hereby tendered to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, for their generous response to the request of this Grand Chapter, in the matter of the old record book, in which is recited the formation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland; and that the same will ever serve as a reminder of the fraternal feelings existing between the two Grand Chapters, and the obligations which it will ever be our pleasure to acknowledge, and should opportunity ever offer, to reciprocate.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form.

WILLIAM A. WENTZ,
Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

OF MARYLAND.

ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

FIRST DAY.

Masonic Temple, }
BALTIMORE, November 12th, A. I. 2408, A. D. 1878. }

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland, was held in the City of Baltimore, November 12th, 1878, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

PRESENT:

Companion JOHN S. TYSON, - - - - M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest.
 “ EDWIN L. PARKER, Jr., - - - R.: E.: Dep.: G.: H.: Priest.
 “ EDMUND J. OPPELT, - - - R.: E.: G.: King.
 “ FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS, - R.: E.: G.: Scribe,
 “ CHARLES T. SISCO, - - - R.: E.: G.: Treasurer.
 “ WILLIAM A. WENTZ, - - - R.: E.: G.: Secretary.
 “ JAMES W. BOWERS, - - - R.: E.: G.: Chaplain, *pro tem.*
 “ WILLIAM F. COCHRAN, - - E.: G.: Captain of the Host.
 “ CHARLES V. S. LEVY, - - - E.: G.: Prin. Sojourner.
 “ GEORGE W. SHEIVE, - - - E.: G.: R.: A.: Captain.
 “ HENRY W. WORTHINGTON, - G.: M.: of 3d Vail.
 “ WILLIAM F. C. GERHARDT, - G.: M.: of 2d Vail.
 “ JOHN E. McCAHAN, - - - G.: M.: of 1st Vail, *pro tem.*
 “ CHARLES E. KEMP, - - - G.: Janitor.

Past Grand High Priests, CHARLES H. OHR, GEORGE L. McCAHAN,
HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr., CHARLES F. ACHEY.

Past Deputy Grand High Priest, EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.

And Representatives of Nos. 1, 7, 9, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26 and 28.

A quorum of Chapters being present, the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M.: E.: Grand High Priest appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

OF CONFERENCE.

Companions HENRY O. REESE, JACOB E. KREBS, WILLIAM WALLER.

OF ACCOUNTS.

Companions C. C. ISAACS, NATHAN LEHMAN, GEORGE W. SHEIVE.

OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Companions EDWARD T. SCHULTZ, M. W. DONAVIN, CHARLES G. FOX.

OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Companions J. HENRY WEBER, WILLIAM T. ADREON, DAVID P. WELFLEY.

OF GRIEVANCES.

Companions JAMES W. BOWERS, GEORGE L. McCAHAN, CHARLES F. ACHES.

The Committee of Conference presented the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and adopted:

To the M.: E.: Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland:

The Committee of Conference having examined the returns of the various Chapters, handed them by the Grand Secretary, find the following named Companions, entitled to seats in this Grand Chapter, as Representatives at this Convocation:

Concordia Chapter, No. 1.

JOHN E. McCAHAN,	.	.	.	.	M.: E.: High Priest.
CHARLES E. SMITH,	.	.	.	.	E.: King.
JOSEPH F. HINDES,	.	.	.	.	E.: Scribe.

Phoenix Chapter, No. 7.

GEORGE W. HUSSELL,	.	.	.	.	M.: E.: High Priest.
WILLIAM N. PETERSON,	.	.	.	.	E.: King.
GEORGE SCHWINN,	.	.	.	.	E.: Scribe.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 9.

C. C. ISAACS,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
J. YOUNG BOYLE,	. . . . .	E.: King.
J. W. WAUGH,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Chesapeake Chapter, No. 17.

WM. WALLER,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
L. E. WILLIAMS,	. . . . .	E.: King.
S. P. DENNIS,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Salem Chapter, No. 18.

DAVID P. WELFLEY,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
GEO. M. DEETZ,	. . . . .	E.: King.
WILL. H. LOWDERMILK,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

St. John's Chapter, No. 19.

MATHEW W. DONAVIN,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
HENRY C. LARRABEE,	. . . . .	E.: King.
JNO. B. EMERY,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Adoniram Chapter, No. 21.

NATHAN LEHMAN,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
F. LEWIS SCHAEFER,	. . . . .	E.: King.
JNO. W. STAUM,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Talbot Chapter, No. 22.

DAVID C. AVERY,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
CHAS. H. GIBSON,	. . . . .	E.: King.
CHAS. E. SHANNAHAN,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Enoch Chapter, No. 23.

C. V. S. LEVY,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
CHAS. C. SMITH,	. . . . .	E.: King.
ISAAC LOWENSTIEN,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Mt. Vernon Chapter, No. 25.

D. CLAUDE HANDY,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
ALFRED NICHOLSON,	. . . . .	E.: King.
WM. H. BELLIS,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Ohr Chapter, No. 26.

N. W. HOWSON,	. . . . .	M.: E.: High Priest.
H. J. KENAH,	. . . . .	E.: King.
A. J. HOOFNAGLE,	. . . . .	E.: Scribe.

Druid Chapter, No. 28.

THOMAS J. SHRYOCK	M.: E.: High Priest.
THOMAS H. KELLEY,	E.: King.
T. SOLLERS WATERS,	E.: Scribe.

Fraternally Submitted,

HENRY O. REESE,
JACOB E. KREBS,
WILLIAM WALLER.

On motion of Comp. WEBER, all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, were admitted as visitors to this Convocation.

Companions D. C. AVERY, C. V. S. LEVY, N. W. HOWSON and T. J. SHRYOCK, High Priests elect of Talbot Chapter, No. 22, Enoch, No. 23, Ohr, No. 26 and Druid, No. 28, and Companions F. LEWIS SCHAEFER, E.: King elect of Druid Chapter, No. 28, CHARLES E. SHANNAHAN, E.: Scribe elect of Talbot Chapter, No. 22, T. S. WATERS, E.: Scribe elect of Druid Chapter, No. 28, were severally installed in their respective offices, by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest.

A communication from Salem Chapter, No. 18, was read, stating the fact of their inability to pay the Grand Chapter dues for 1877, when, on motion of Comp. PARKER, the dues amounting to \$38.00, were remitted.

The M.: E.: Grand High Priest, read the following

ADDRESS:

COMPANIONS:

For several years past, my predecessors have recorded in their respective addresses the demise of some of your officers or members, and the voice of mourning has been mingled with the fraternal greeting of Companions in Annual Convocation.

On this occasion I have no such sorrowful tidings to communicate to you.

Let us render thanks to Divine Providence that during the past year He has permitted our fraternal circle to remain unbroken, and let us gratefully improve the allotted moments that may yet be left to us.

CHARITY.

While we have been thus highly favored, our Companions and countrymen in other jurisdictions have been sorely afflicted with a devastating pestilence which has numbered its victims by thousands. Believing that this

Grand Chapter would desire to contribute to the relief of this suffering, I took the responsibility, after consultation with the Council and other members, of drawing upon the Grand Treasurer for the sum of one hundred dollars for this purpose. For this act, done without authority, I ask your ratification and approval.

I have also to report, that the sum of one hundred dollars has been donated in the case specially referred to the Council at the last Annual Convocation.

INSTALLATIONS.

One of my first official acts was the installation of the Grand Treasurer, which occurred in Adoniram Chapter, No. 21, on Nov. 19th. I also issued proxies for the installation of the High Priests elect, who had not been installed by my predecessor.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

December 26th, 1877, the credentials of Companion CHARLES F. ACHEY, P.: G.: H.: P.:, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, were received, and I appointed Companion J. H. PRATTEX, Representative of this Grand Chapter, near the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

January 17th, 1878, the credentials of Companion HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr., P.: G.: H.: P.:, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, were received, and I appointed Companion JOSEPH L. PERKINS, our Representative near that Grand Chapter.

February 2nd, 1878, I appointed Companion JOHN M. PRICE our Representative near the Grand Chapter of Kansas, and Companion CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, our Representative near the Grand Chapter of California.

March 11th, 1878, I appointed Companion JACOB BERGER, our Representative near the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, in place of Companion W. J. TRULL, who had removed from that jurisdiction.

I ask that these appointments receive your approval.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

I have visited officially, and in most cases in company with some of the Grand Officers, all the Chapters in the jurisdiction, with one exception. I am glad to report, that although there has been a decrease in the amount of work as compared with preceding years, I have found no general indications of lack of zeal among the Craft. There has been some falling off in the attendance of members, but this I have regarded as the natural consequence of the want of work, and not as any real evidence of a lack of interest in our institution.

I note, as a new feature in the jurisdiction, the extending of invitations from one Chapter to another; which has been practiced to a considerable extent in this city during the past year. On several of these occasions I was present officially, and was much gratified to witness the large attendance, and to participate in the social enjoyment. It is to be hoped that the practice may continue. On January 30th, the building oc-

cupied by Ohr Chapter, No. 26, at Mt. Savage, was totally destroyed by fire. The Chapter lost nearly all its property, including its book of marks, but saved its record of proceedings, and some other books and papers. Its property was fully insured, so that the Chapter was enabled in a short time to procure a new but less comfortable home.

I regret to inform you that the Masonic Temple at Annapolis has been sold for debt, and also that several of the Companions of Mount Vernon Chapter, in that city, are involved in considerable pecuniary loss on the same account, having made themselves responsible for a portion of the Temple debt. These circumstances, and the long continued illness of Companion D. CLAUDE HANDY, High Priest of that Chapter, have had a depressing effect upon the members; but there is abundant good material in the Chapter to make it one of the best in the jurisdiction, and I have hopes, from conversations with the Companions, on my official visit last month, that a brighter future is before them.

By resolution adopted at the last Annual Convocation, [pg. 19,] the Charter of Ithiel Chapter was arrested, and the Grand Secretary was "instructed to take immediate steps to have its property and funds turned over to the Grand Chapter." The Grand Secretary immediately notified the late High Priest, of the defunct Chapter, of this action of the Grand Chapter, by letter, and requested him to turn over the property, etc., to the Grand Chapter. To this letter the Grand Secretary has received no reply. In the early part of last month, I called the attention of the Grand Secretary to the fact, (which I myself had overlooked), that the Constitution, Article XIII, Sec. 3, makes it the special duty of the last Secretary and Treasurer of a Chapter whose charter has been forfeited, to transmit or surrender its property, funds, etc., to the Grand Secretary, or to such other person as may be appointed for the purpose by the Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary then wrote to these Companions and received satisfactory replies, and promises of compliance. They also stated that the Grand Secretary's letter gave them the first information they had of the forfeiture of the Charter.

The High Priest elect of Jerusalem Chapter, No. 9, having declined the office, I issued a dispensation, on the 5th instant, to authorize a new election.

DECISIONS.

Several amendments to by-laws have been submitted to me for my approval. Some of these merely provided a change in the time of convocation, and were approved. The remainder related to the subject of non-payment of dues. Some of these were approved, and some disapproved. Without reciting the precise language of these amendments, I will briefly state the reasons by which I was governed in acting upon them. In one case I held that since the repeal of the standing resolution of November, 1848, the punishment of "dropping" could not be inflicted; that under the ancient usages or common law of Masonry, expulsion or indefinite suspension are the only methods of dismissing from membership.

In other cases, I held that there is nothing peculiar in the offense of non-payment of dues, which can justify its punishment without the essential

requisites of a Masonic trial, viz: reasonable and specific notice of the charge, reasonable time and opportunity for defence, and trial by ballot.

I have been called upon to decide whether, in the absence of any provision in the by-laws of a Chapter for "calling off," it can, by mere resolution be lawfully called off during the Summer. I decided, that no resolution of the Chapter can legally suspend the operation of a by-law requiring convocations at stated periods; and if during the period of any such illegal suspension, a convocation be held on one of the stated days provided in the by-laws, it will be a stated, and not a special convocation. As a number of the Chapters generally desire to call off during the hot season, it would be well for them to make provision for so doing by their by-laws, or for the Grand Chapter to incorporate in its Constitution some general provision on the subject, such as we have in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Having been credibly informed that instances had occurred in which so-called M.: E.: Master's Lodges had been declared open for the examination of candidates *before* the opening of the Chapter, I deemed it important this error should be corrected, and issued a circular letter to the several Chapters, stating that "the established practice requires that no M.: E.: Master's Lodge shall be opened, except in the bosom of the Chapter. The Chapter must first be opened and called off, and then, in the recess of the Chapter, the Lodge may be opened, and after it shall have been closed, the Chapter must be called on, and closed."

I have been called upon to decide whether a candidate for advancement who has been rejected by a Chapter in the City of Baltimore, may, after six months from the date of such rejection, be lawfully advanced in another Chapter in this city, without the consent of the rejecting Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter in 1874, adopted the following: "Doubts having arisen in reference to the question as to the right of any Chapter to confer the Capitular Degrees, upon a candidate previously rejected by any other Chapter, it is declared by this General Grand Chapter, as the true law upon such subject, that no Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall confer the Capitular Degrees on any candidate previously regularly rejected by any other Chapter, without first procuring the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided such Chapter be in existence."

In reporting this action to the Grand Chapter of Maryland, in November, 1875, our Grand High Priest said: "This will necessitate the query to each candidate who applies, as to whether he has been rejected or not. I call especial attention of the representatives to this resolution, as it is mandatory in its character."

It certainly is "mandatory in its character," but the Committee on the address of our Grand High Priest, does not appear to have considered it obligatory, for they deem it necessary to report an amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, confirming the enactment of the General Grand Chapter. No action however has ever been taken by this Grand Chapter on the proposed amendment, or on the subject of which it treats.

Considering the question independently of the action of the General Grand Chapter, there can be no doubt that the law in this jurisdiction, permits any rejected candidate, six months after rejection, to apply to any Chapter within whose *territorial* jurisdiction he may reside, and to be advanced therein, without the consent of the rejecting chapter. Such has heretofore been the practice fully sanctioned by constitutional provisions, Art. 13, sec. 7, 10, 11. Such being the case, I am very clear in my opinion, that the General Grand Chapter has no authority to enact a law on the subject, especially such a law as would affect the question as between two Chapters under the same Grand Chapter. My reason for this opinion is the simple fact, that the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, Art. 1, sec. 2, expressly declares that it shall not have ‘*any legislative powers whatever not hereby specially granted*,’ and nowhere in its constitution is there any *special* or even *implied* grant of any such legislative power as that now in question. It may perhaps be argued, that the General Grand Chapter was not exercising *legislative* power, but rather a *judicial* power, by declaring what the law *then* was. At first sight there may appear some foundation for this construction, since the resolution in express words purports to declare the law, but instead of declaring what the law *IS*, it proceeds to declare what the law *SHALL BE*, (‘that no chapter under this jurisdiction *SHALL* confer &c.’) and to declare what the law *shall be* is to enact a law: but even if the resolution had declared in apt terms, what the law *then* was, it would have had no validity; for the same section of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, above mentioned declares, that all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it, are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually.

The same section also specifies under what circumstances the General Grand Chapter may exercise judicial power, viz:

“It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom, which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter by formal vote.”

The *decision* in the case under consideration, if it be a *decision*, was not made under any of the circumstances requisite to give it validity. It appears by the record of the proceedings of the G.: G.: Chapter, [1874, pg. 45.] that the question arose upon a resolution offered by Companion CASSIDY, of New York, upon his individual responsibility.

It is true, that the Grand Chapter of New York in 1874, passed a resolution, [see Grand Chapter of New York, 1875, pg. 17,] requesting the General Grand Chapter “*to adopt regulations upon the subject*,” but this resolution does not appear to have been presented to the General Grand Chapter. If it had been so presented, the case would not have been altered, since the General Grand Chapter, as already shown, has no authority to “*adopt regulations*, (that is to say, to *legislate*), upon the subject.

Due respect for the General Grand Chapter, and consideration for the opinions heretofore officially expressed by one of my most esteemed predecessors, has induced me to state fully my views on this subject. This Grand Chapter having before it at this Convocation the enactment of a new constitution, will no doubt settle the law for the future. The subject is one which may well engage your attention, and the views which I have expressed in regard to the legal aspect of the question are of course entirely independent of any consideration of the abstract merits of such a regulation as that adopted by the General Grand Chapter.

AMENDMENT OF RITUAL.

In considering the powers of the General Grand Chapter, my attention has been arrested by a manifest conflict between one of the provisions of its constitution and a portion of our *ritual*. The constitutional provision to which I refer, (Art. "Miscellaneous," sec. 2), requires every member of every Chapter, and every candidate upon his admission, to take the following obligation, viz :

"I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain *the Constitution* of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America."

In my opinion it is imperatively necessary that our ritual should *strictly* conform to this provision. It is evidently intended to prescribe the *exact words* which are to be used, and to point out distinctly to every Royal Arch Mason, when he crosses the threshold of our sanctuary, that the General Grand Chapter has no authority except such as it derives from its Constitution. Fully in accord with this provision is Sec. 3, of Art. 3, which makes it the duty of every High Priest "to see that the *by-laws* of his chapter, as well as the *Constitution* of the General Grand Chapter, and the *regulations* of the Grand Chapter, be duly observed."

SPECIAL CONVOCATION.

I can not close this account of my official acts, without congratulating you upon the happy events of our Special Grand Convocation of January 31st. By the very great kindness of our Companions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, we were on that occasion presented with an ancient record, which establishes the origin of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, at a date much earlier than we had before supposed. But we are not only indebted to them for this valuable document, but also for the very great pleasure they afforded us by their presence on the occasion. I consider myself fortunate in having had the honor of welcoming, on your behalf, as your chief officer, within the gaurded precincts of our sanctuary, so many Companions from another jurisdiction, distinguished no less by their zeal and fidelity, than by their high official rank. Many of us were no doubt forcibly reminded of the past, when these two tribes of Israel marched under one banner, and dwelt in the same tabernacle.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

The year which has just passed has not been favorable to the increase of our numbers. We have have not had as many additions to our ranks

as heretofore, and the number of suspensions for non-payment of dues is large. This subject of non-payment of dues is one of great and of growing importance, and I trust that the suggestions, which I am about to make, will direct your thoughts to the serious nature of the evil, and to the absolute necessity for some remedy, and thus induce you and each of you most zealously to search for that remedy.

It must be a source of very great regret, to every right-minded companion who views the subject in its proper light, not because of the fact of suspension or the loss of members to the fraternity, but because of the *cause* of suspension. I take it for granted that no Companion, who is unable to pay his dues and makes that fact known to his Chapter, will be suspended for non-payment. It is therefor truly mortifying, and makes us grieve for the frailty of humanity, to find so many persons who have been bound to us by the most sacred ties, whose moral character has passed the scrutiny of our investigation and the ordeal of the ballot, who have a standing in the community as respectable men, who are under the most solemn and explicit obligations to deal justly with their brethren and companions, and to obey the by-laws of their chapters, yet violating these most solemn obligations for the sake of a few paltry dollars, and still claiming to be honorable men, having a right to walk uprightly, holding up their heads towards the light of Heaven, instead of grovelling, as they should, in the dust of humiliation and shame. This debt, this *duty*, so much more sacred than any ordinary debt, they seem to regard as of even less obligation than that commonly accorded to mercantile debts, or even to a doctor's bill.

Such certainly is the appearance which the facts present at first sight. I am firmly convinced however, that a very large majority of the delinquencies occur from a want of proper consideration, and because the delinquents have not had the matter presented to them in its true light. They think that membership is something which they have a right to surrender if they choose so to do. This is true if it be done in the only right and honorable way, by payment of dues and getting a dimit. The mistake lies in supposing that one can by submitting to suspension, divest himself of moral responsibilities which accrued while he was yet a member.

The views which I have expressed are not merely speculative opinions. They have been fully confirmed by my actual experience and observation. When I was Secretary of my Lodge, out of some fifty odd members, I found about twenty more or less behind in their dues, some of them very much behind. I did not hesitate, but considered it my duty as a Master Mason, to inform these brethren plainly of *their* duty, in fact to say to them in substance, "if you are *able* to pay this debt, you *must* pay it, or you will be perjured and forsworn."

No one was offended by this plain speaking, for no one had a right to be offended by it. Nearly all thanked me, and said that they had never viewed the subject in that light before. The result was that I collected and continued to collect promptly the dues of every member, with three excep-

tions, and two of these three had removed from the State, and I could not obtain their addresses. I trust that these suggestions will be considered worthy of a fair trial.

CONCLUSION.

And now Companions, as the time approaches when I must surrender the high authority which your partiality has conferred upon me, permit me, in conclusion, to express my heartfelt thanks for your undeserved favor, and for the uniform kindness, courtesy and fraternal consideration which I have received at your hands.

I will not longer detain you from the important matters which await your attention.

JOHN S. TYSON,
Grand High Priest.

On motion the address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, was referred to the following

COMMITTEE.

Companions GEORGE L. McCAHAN, F. J. S. GORGAS, C. V. S. LEVY.

The record of proceedings of the Special Convocation held January 31, 1878, was read and approved.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary presented their books and accounts, which were, on motion, referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The Committee on the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, made the following report, which was, on motion of Comp. EMMONS, accepted:

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last Annual Convocation to revise the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, beg leave herewith to submit their report.

Fraternally,

GEORGE L. McCAHAN,
JAS. W. BOWERS,
JOHN M. CARTER.

The amendment to the Constitution proposed at the last Annual Convocation, to repeal Article xiv, was taken up, and unanimously adopted.

The amendments to the Constitution as reported by the Committee, were taken up separately, a portion of them adopted, when the hour being late, their further consideration was postponed until to-morrow evening.

The Committee of Correspondence presented their report.

Comp. EMMONS, moved that the report be accepted, and printed with the proceedings; the motion was adopted.

Comp. SCHULTZ, presented his credentials as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of California, near the Grand Chapter of Maryland, the Companion was received in due form.

The Grand Chapter was called off until to-morrow evening, 7½ o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

Masonic Temple, }
BALTIMORE, November 13th, A. I. 2408, A. D. 1878. }

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 7½ o'clock, P. M. The Grand Officers and a due representation of Chapters present.

And P.: G.: High Priests CHARLES H. OHR, GEORGE L. McCAHAN, JAMES W. BOWERS, HERMON L. EMMONS, JR., CHARLES F. ACHEY, P.: Dep. G.: High Priest EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.

The record of proceedings of the Convocation held last evening was read and approved.

On motion of Comp. WEBER, it was ordered that the election of Grand Officers be held this evening at 9 o'clock.

Comp. CARTER, presented the following, which was on motion adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to call upon Phoenix Royal Arch Chapter, No. 7, for an opportunity to correct a clerical error which occurs in the duplicate Charter now held by said Chapter, and that he correct said error by inserting the diphthong "æ" in the place of the vowel "e" in the first syllable of the name of the Chapter where it occurs in said Charter.

The consideration of the amendments to the Constitution, as reported by the Committee, was resumed, and the amendments adopted.

The Constitution as amended, was then on motion of Comp. EMMONS, adopted as a whole. (See Appendix.)

On motion of Comp. EMMONS, it was ordered that the Constitution as amended this evening, be printed and bound with the printed proceedings, also, that 1,000 additional copies of the Constitution, including the Constitution of the G.: G.: Chapter be printed, and that the printing of the Constitution be done under the supervision of the Committee.

The hour for the election having arrived, the Grand Chapter proceeded to elect its officers, with the following results :

Comp.	EDWIN L. PARKER, Jr.	- - - - -	M.: E.: G.: II.: Priest.
"	EDMUND J. OPPELT,	- - - - -	R.: E.: D.: G.: II.: Priest.
"	FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS,	- - - - -	R.: E.: G.: King.
"	WILLIAM F. COCHRAN,	- - - - -	R.: E.: G.: Scribe.
"	CHARLES T. SISCO,	- - - re-elected	R.: E.: G.: Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	- - - "	R.: E.: G.: Secretary.
"	JOSEPH B. STITT,	- - - - -	R.: E.: G.: Chaplain.
"	CHARLES V. S. LEVY,	- - - - -	E.: G.: Capt. of the Host.
"	J. HENRY WEBER,	re-elected	} Trustees.
"	GEORGE L. McCAHAN,		

The Committee of Accounts presented the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and adopted :

The Committee of Accounts beg leave to present the names of the following Companions, members of the Grand Chapter, entitled to travelling expenses as Representatives.

WM. WALLER, Salisbury,	- - - - -	\$10.00
N. W. HOWSON, Mt. Savage,	- - - - -	13.00
C. V. S. LEVY, Frederick,	- - - - -	3.50
		<hr/>
		\$26.50

GEO. W. SHEIVE,
NATHAN LEHMAN,

Comp. GORGAS presented the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be paid Comp. SCHULTZ, for services as chairman of Committee of Correspondence.

Resolved, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid Comp. KEMP, for services as Grand Janitor.

The Grand Chapter was called off until to-morrow evening at 7½ o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

Masonic Temple,)
BALTIMORE, November 14, A. I. 2403, A. D. 1873. }

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 7½ o'clock, P.M., the Grand Officers and a due representation of Chapters present.

And P.: G.: High Priests CHARLES H. OHR, GEORGE L. McCAHAN, JAMES W. BOWERS, HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr.

The record of proceedings of the convocation held last evening was read and approved.

Comp. OPPELT moved that the resolution adopted last evening, appropriating fifty dollars to Comp. SCHULTZ, chairman of Committee of Correspondence, be reconsidered. Lost.

Comp. KREBS presented the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, 'That the Report on Correspondence, be hereafter limited to seventy-five pages of the printed proceedings.

The Committee on the address of the M.: E.: G.: High Priest, presented the following report, which was, on motion, accepted, and the resolutions, as reported by the committee, were taken up separately and adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, beg leave to report the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the very constant care and attention manifested on the part of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, in the interest of the Royal Craft throughout the jurisdiction during the past year, merits the special commendation of this Grand Chapter, and the same is hereby heartily accorded.

Resolved, That the action of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, in donating the sum of \$100 towards the relief of our afflicted Companions in the South, be approved.

Resolved, That in the matter of discipline for non-payment of dues, the opinions and decision of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest in regard to the same, be approved.

Resolved, That whilst this Grand Chapter approves of the object sought to be accomplished by the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, at its Tri-ennial Convocation, held at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1874, in regard to "Rejected Material," yet it is the sense of this Grand Chapter, that said resolution can only apply to Subordinate Chapters *under its own immediate jurisdiction*.

Resolved, That the ritual of this Grand Chapter be changed as suggested by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, so as to accord with the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and that the M.: E.: High Priests of the several Chapters and the Grand Lecturer are hereby charged with carrying the same into effect.

Fraternally submitted,

GEORGE L. McCAHAN,
F. J. S. GORGAS,
C. V. S. LEVY.

The Committee of Accounts presented the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and adopted :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of Maryland :

The Committee of accounts respectfully report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and find the same correct, and supported by the proper vouchers.

Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer, \$1,257 34.

C. C. ISAACS,
GEORGE W. SHEIVE,
NATHAN LEHMAN.

On motion of Comp. McCAHAN, the two Standing Resolutions of November 14th, 1865, were repealed, the substance of the resolutions having been embodied in the revised constitution, adopted at this convocation.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The M.:. E.:. G.:. High Priest Comp. JOHN S. TYSON,
installed Comp. EDWIN L. PARKER, Jr., M.:. E.:. G.:. High
Priest.

The M.:. E.:. G.:. High Priest installed the following :

Companion	EDMUND J. OPPELT,	- - - - -	R.: E.: D.: G.: H.: Priest.
"	FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS,	- - -	R.: E.: G.: King.
"	WILLIAM F. COCHRAN,	- - - -	R.: E.: G.: Scribe.
"	CHARLES T. SISCO,	- - - - -	R.: E.: G.: Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	- - - - -	R.: E.: G.: Secretary.
"	CHARLES V. S. LEVY,	- - - - -	E.: G.: Capt. of the Host.

The Grand Council made the following appointments :

Companion	GEORGE W. SUEIVE, of No. 28,	- -	E.: G.: Prin. Sojourner.
"	CHARLES F. RIEHL, of No. 1,	- - -	E.: G.: R.: A.: Captain
"	DAVID HUTZLER, No. 21,	- - - -	G.: M.: of 3d Vail.
"	HENRY O. REESE, of No. 7,	- - -	G.: M.: of 2nd Vail.
"	N. W. HOWSON, of No. 26,	- - - -	G.: M.: of 1st Vail.
"	CHARLES E. KEMP, of No. 21,	- -	G.: Janitor.
"	THOMAS W. WARFIELD, of No. 9,		} G.: Stewards.
"	WILLIAM H. BAUER, of No. 1,	-	

The Committee on Photographic Album was, on motion,
continued.

The record of proceedings of this convocation was
read and approved.

The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form.

WILLIAM A. WENTZ,
Grand Secretary.

THE GRAND SECRETARY HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE :

It is hereby certified that at a Stated Convocation of Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapter, No. 9, held at the Masonic Temple, Baltimore, November 11th, A. I. 2408, Companions JOHN E. McCAHAN, GEO. W. HUSSEL, C. C. ISAACS, WM. WALLER, D. F. WELFLEY, M. W. DONAVIN, N. LEHMAN, were duly installed High Priests respectively of Concordia R. A. Chapter, No. 1, Phoenix R. A. Chapter, No. 7, Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, No. 9, Chesapeake R. A. Chapter, No. 17, Salem R. A. Chapter, No. 18, St. John's R. A. Chapter, No. 19, Adoniram R. A. Chapter, No. 21, and Companions CHAS. SMITH, WM. PETERSON, J. YOUNG BOYLE, H. C. LARABEE, Kings respectively of Concordia R. A. Chapter, No. 1, Phoenix R. A. Chapter, No. 7, Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, No. 9, St. John's R. A. Chapter, No. 19, and Companions GEO. SCHWIN, and J. W. WAUGH, Scribes respectively of Phoenix R. A. Chapter, No. 7, and Jerusalem R. A. Chapter, No. 9, by the M. E. Grand High Priest, JOHN S. TYSON, assisted by the Grand Officers.

J. YOUNG BOYLE,

Secretary p. t.

Reports of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Dr. *The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland in account with* CHARLES T. SISCO, *Grand Treasurer.* Cr.

1877.	CASH PAYMENTS.	1877.	CASH RECEIPTS.	
Nov. 17	To Comp. W. A. Wentz, Grand Sec'y—Salary,	200 00	By Balance on hand in Eutaw	1474 45
	" C. E. Kemp, Grand Janitor Services,	25 00	Savings Bank, - - - -	1063 50
	" H. J. Kenah—Mileage, - - - -	13 00	Cash from Grand Secretary, -	
	" C. V. S. Levy, do - - - -	3 50		
	Advertisements—Sun, American, Gazette,	5 75	Interest from Eutaw Savings	65 43
	Postage, - - - -	12 00	Bank, - - - -	
	Comp. E. T. Schultz, Chairman Com. Cor.	100 00		
Jan. 8, '78	Printing Proceedings, - - - -	440 50		
	F. X. Kohler, Seal of Grand Chapter, - -	8 00		
	Postage, Stationery, &c. - - - -	5 00		
Feb. 24	Reception G. R. A. Chapter of D. C. - -	256 50		
Mar. 5	Official Visit Grand Officers R. A. C., No. 17,	33 36		
Sept. 19	Relief Yellow Fever Sufferers, - - - -	100 00		
Oct. 11	Official Visit Grand Officers, - - - -	18 85		
	Mrs. Chas. Goodwin, - - - -	100 00		
	Official Visit Grand Officers, - - - -	12 00		
	Dues General Grand Royal Arch Chapter,	12 58		
Nov. 1	Balance, - - - -	1257 34	By Balance in Eutaw Savings	
			Bank, - - - -	
		\$ 2603 38		\$ 2603 38

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES T. SISCO, *Grand Treasurer.*

Baltimore, November 12th, 1878.

Dr. WM. A. WENTZ, *Grand Secretary, in account with Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Maryland.* Cr.

1877.		To Concordia R. A. Chapter, No. 1, -	1877. Nov. 16	By cash paid Grand Treasurer - -	\$1063 50
Nov. 13		To Concordia R. A. Chapter, No. 1, -			
"		" Phoenix do do 7, -			
"		" Jerusalem do do 9, -			
"		" Chesapeake do do 17, -			
"		" Saint John's do do 19 -			
"		" Adoniram do do 21 -			
"		" Talbot do do 22 -			
"		" Enoch do do 23 -			
"		" Mt. Vernon do do 25 -			
"		" Ohr do do 26 -			
"		" Druid do do 28 -			
					\$1063 50
					\$1063 50

Baltimore, November 12, 1878.

Fraternally submitted,
WILLIAM A. WENTZ, *Grand Secretary.*

PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF
MARYLAND.

ENOCH S. COURTNEY,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
CHARLES H. OHR,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
JAMES W. BOWERS,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
HERMON L. EMMONS, JR.,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
CHARLES F. ACHEY,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
JOHN S. TYSON,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand High Priest.</i>
WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	.	.	.	<i>Past Deputy Grand High Priest.</i>
EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,	.	.	.	<i>Past Deputy Grand High Priest.</i>
PHILIP S. FIELD,	.	.	.	<i>Past Deputy Grand High Priest.</i>
JACOB H. MEDAIRY,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand King.</i>
GEORGE A. HANSON,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand King.</i>
D. CLAUDE HANDY,	.	.	.	<i>Past Grand King.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF MARYLAND
NEAR OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS.

JOHN W. SIMONS,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of New York.</i>
SAMUEL T. TODD,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Louisiana.</i>
S. C. COFFINBERRY,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Michigan.</i>
RICHARD TOZER,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of South Carolina.</i>
WM. WALLACE GOODWIN,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of New Jersey.</i>
JOHN D. VINCEL,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Missouri.</i>
				<i>Grand Chapter of Tennessee.</i>
WILLIAM F. GODWIN,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Delaware.</i>
DENT H. MILES,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Mississippi.</i>
A. ROBENO,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.</i>
JAS. G. SMITH,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of District of Columbia.</i>
J. L. KENDALL,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.</i>
H. H. BURBANK,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Maine.</i>
J. FOREE,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Kentucky.</i>
T. A. CREIGH,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Nebraska.</i>
E. S. ELLIOTT,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.</i>
R. F. BOWER,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Iowa.</i>
H. J. PRATTEN,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Quebec.</i>
JOS. F. PERKINS,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Vermont.</i>
JOHN M. PRICE,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of Kansas.</i>
CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of California.</i>
JACOB BERGER,	.	.	.	<i>Grand Chapter of West Virginia.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND CHAPTERS NEAR THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF MARYLAND.

CHARLES H. OHR,	.	.	.	<i>For Missouri.</i>
CHARLES H. OHR,	.	.	.	<i>For Tennessee.</i>
CHARLES H. OHR,	.	.	.	<i>For Nova Scotia.</i>
EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,	.	.	.	<i>For New York.</i>
EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,	.	.	.	<i>For Pennsylvania.</i>
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,	.	.	.	<i>For New Jersey.</i>
JACOB H. MEDAIRD,	.	.	.	<i>For Minnesota.</i>
GEORGE A. HANSON,	.	.	.	<i>For Louisiana.</i>
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,	.	.	.	<i>For District of Columbia.</i>
EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,	.	.	.	<i>For Kansas.</i>
CHARLES F. ACHEY,	.	.	.	<i>For Nebraska.</i>
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,	.	.	.	<i>For Massachusetts.</i>
HERMON L. EMMONS, JR.,	.	.	.	<i>For Wisconsin.</i>
JAMES W. BOWERS,	.	.	.	<i>For Maine.</i>
JAMES W. BOWERS,	.	.	.	<i>For Kentucky.</i>
JAMES W. BOWERS,	.	.	.	<i>For South Carolina.</i>
WILLIAM TELL ADREON,	.	.	.	<i>For Mississippi.</i>
JOHN S. TYSON,	.	.	.	<i>For West Virginia.</i>
CHARLES F. ACHEY,	.	.	.	<i>For Quebec.</i>
HERMON L. EMMONS, JR.,	.	.	.	<i>For Vermont.</i>
EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,	.	.	.	<i>For California.</i>

LIST OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

The following is a list of the Officers and Members of the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, together with the stated time and place of meeting of each Chapter, so far as communicated to the Grand Secretary.

CONCORDIA, No. 1, Baltimore.

Meets at Masonic Temple on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

OFFICERS:

JOHN E. McCAHAN,	. . . . .	High Priest.
CHARLES E. SMITH,	. . . . .	King.
JOSEPH F. HINDES,	. . . . .	Scribe.
NICHOLAS BREWER,	. . . . .	Treasurer.
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,	. . . . .	Secretary.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

GEORGE L. McCAHAN, P.: G.: H.: P.:
 CHARLES WEBB, P.: H.: P.:
 WILLIAM H. BAUER, P.: H.: P.:
 CHARLES G. FOX, P.: H.: P.:
 H. WILSON WORTHINGTON, P.: H.: P.:
 CHARLES F. RIEHL, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Alexander, Donald	Beckett, Thos.
Arthur, Henry	Beck, Geo. W.
Adler, H. M.	Blackburn, C. O.
Ambach, David	Bose, J. N.
Brewer, Nicholas	Boyd, R. E.
Behrend, Michael	Baillie, Wm. L.
Banks, W. E.	Baroux, E. G.
Bauer, W. H.	Brunner, Hamilton
Brafman, A.	Bell, William
Bishop, J. E.	Collier, Donal R.
Bartron, Jr., Jas.	Charlton, Richard
Brown, Jesse W.	Counselman, L. W.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Colton, William
 Diven, Edward R.
 Dawson, David N.
 Dohme, G. C.
 Duker, Otto
 Danaker, Frank A.
 Dyer, Jacob S.
 Deale, James F.
 Emerich, Martin
 Evitt, Robert
 Frick, E. A.
 Fox, Charles G.
 Forrest, Thaddeus
 Fugle, James
 Gordon, John
 Griffin, Thos. W.
 Green, Chas. W.
 Holmes, Byron H.
 Herzog, Charles
 Hopkins, F.
 Hamburger, Jacob
 Hindes, Jos. F.
 Kahn, Samuel
 Kahn, Moses
 Kelsey, Wm. A.
 Kratz, Conrad
 Kelly, W. H.
 Kelly, B. F.
 Kerner, Geo. H.
 Lewis, Louis
 Lewitoch, Jacob
 Lambdin, J. H.
 Lindan, Max
 Lowe, Jos. F.
 Linaweaver, Jno. N.
 Lewis, J. Elwood
 Lickle, John D.
 McCahan, George L.
 Morawitz, L. F.
 Moquin, John
 Morgan, George T.
 Maxwell, W. S.
 McCurdy, J. K. P.
 Miller, Jno. H.

McCahan, E. Luther
 McCahan, John E.
 Marchant, John R.
 Marshall, James
 Newport, Chas. C.
 Owings, H. W.
 Piggott, Rev. Robert
 Parkhurst, P. C.
 Piquett, W. T.
 Pennington, S. C.
 Peacock, W. D. L.
 Peed, James R.
 Plack, John H.
 Rodgers, John J.
 Rosenfeld, Michael
 Riehl, Chas. F.
 Riehl, J. H.
 Reaney, Alex.
 Russell, Jno. A.
 Roelkey, E.
 Schloss, Wm.
 Stern, David S.
 Stewart, C. M.
 Staum, George M.
 Stockley, A. A.
 Showacre, H. C.
 Southerland, B. F.
 Smith, W. H.
 Smith, Chas. E.
 Seneca, R.
 Stricker, Eli
 Spencer, A. D.
 Thorpe, R. H.
 Thompson, W. J.
 Ulman, B. F.
 Warner, A. E.
 Webb, Charles
 Worthington, H. Wilson
 Wood, John
 Wilhelm, Chas. H.
 Weaver, Levi
 Wehr, Fred'k
 Ward, Abraham
 Wagner, Wm. H.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Woodburn, D. E.	Wegner, Jno. G.
Williams, Rich'd	Willson, John Wm.
Webb, C. W.	Zimmerman, Geo. J.

Withdrawn:

Ahlsleger, Wm.	Jordon, Joseph
Foote, Abner L.	Petze, Louis
Fugle, Fred.	Rosewald, J. H.

Deceased:

Cutts, Thos. M.	Jacobs, J. M.
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Expelled by Lodge:

Gorsuch, John T.

Suspended:

Atkinson, Thos. F.	Hays, John B.
Brewer, P. B.	Hardenbrook, John A.
Bouis, S. Jr.,	Marsh, Salome
Douglass, August	Shower, Geo. H.
Douglass, Julius	Tweedy, S. A.
Feldhaus, J. A.	Wilson, James
Hall, James	Wiemer, Henry

Suspended by Lodge:

Bruce, J. M.	Smith, John D.
McCurley, Felix	Sturmfelz, John

PHŒNIX, No. 7, Baltimore.

meets at Masonic Temple on the second and fourth Fridays of each month.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE W. HUSSELL,	.	.	.	.	.	High Priest.
WILLIAM N. PETERSON,	.	.	.	.	.	King.
GEORGE SCHWINN,	.	.	.	.	.	Scribe.
WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	.	.	.	.	.	Treasurer.
RICHARD D. MURPHY,	.	.	.	.	.	Secretary.
CHARLES E. KEMP,	.	.	.	.	.	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

WILLIAM A. WENTZ, G.: Secretary.

J. H. MEDAIRY, P.: G.: K.:

E. L. STEVENS, P.: H.: P.:

M. L. DUDLEY, P.: H.: P.:

F. J. KUGLER, P.: H.: P.:

J. H. B. LATROBE, P.: H.: P.:

JOHN S. TYSON, P.: H.: P.:

WM. TELL ADREON, P.: H.: P.:

HENRY O. REESE, P.: H.: P.:

JOHN M. CARTER, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adreon, William Tell	Barton, William H., Jr.
Abercrombe, David	Barnes, Thomas H.
Atchison, James B.	Brylawski, Aaron
Andrews, James B.	Buckler, Charles W.
Addison, Joseph T.	Booz, Charles W.
Benson, George W.	Booz, Edward G.
Brown, Andrew	Booz, Henry P.
Blinsinger, George F.	Clark, James G.
Barry, A. H.	Campbell, William
Bump, J. L.	Coffroth, George R.
Bowen, H. L.	Crabbe, J. E. R.
Booz, Daniel W.	Corbett, Emanuel
Boston, J. E. H.	Cooper, Thomas
Barroll, B. C., Jr.	Clark, William H.
Barton, Miller R.	Cosden, George W.
Brauner, John L.	Crook, Harry
Bartlett, George W. B.	Cline, H. H.
Brown, James Wilson	Case, J. Madison
Burriss, Henry L.	Case, Nelson B.
Briggs, George G.	Coulson, E. L.
Briggs, O. C. F.	Clement, James
Belt, J. W.	Conner, Roger
Browning, William E.	Carter, John M.
Bramble, H. T.	Conway, Richd. H.
Berry, William	Connell, William E.
Baughner, William H.	Carlisle, George A.
Byrne, Chris. Lee	Crozier, W. W.
Beymer, H. B.	Charles, Peter
Booze, James W.	Doyle, Samuel B.
Bowen, G. S.	Dougherty, J. J. C.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Dudley, M. L.	Hamel, George L.
DesForges, J. P.	Hill, George D.
Desch, C. S.	Harvey, James, Jr.
Davis, George Morris	Hyatt, R. H.
Donaldson, Artemus	Hooper, T. A.
Day, Alfred G.	Helland, F. C. H.
Dudley, C. G. B.	Hunt, Frank N.
Dodge, J. Heath	Harrison, William H.
Dunan, Winfield S.	Hitzell, F. A.
Debow, Christian	Hoffman, E. M.
Daily, H. C.	Hanline, L. M.
Ehlen, John F.	Heiman, Jacob
Elton, William Henry	Heyn, Martin
Emmart, Vernon S.	Holthouse, H. C.
Elliott, William Wallace	Hussell, George W.
Finley, J. Randolph	Harris, J. Morrison
Fischer, Hermon E.	Hopkins, J. S.
Faulkner, A. B.	Hank, A. S.
French, H. Oran	Hosmar, A. H.
Fisher, William J.	Hellwig, Henry
Frank, M. K.	Hoepman, D. M.
Fox, Theo B.	Hooper, Charles V. B.
Fetterhoff, Hiram R.	Jordan, Edward
Gates, Ezra	Johnson, W. A.
Gibson, William	Jurgens, J. H.
Gwynn, Robert	Jenkins, Benj. W.
Gourley, James	Johnson, John H.
Garey, Henry F.	Keafauver, John
Gunn, R. B.	Knapp, Frederick
Givan, James L.	Knight, H. B.
Gilman, George H.	Konze, John W.
Gorman, James S.	Kreis, George W.
Greenfield, A. H.	Kugler, Thomas H.
Gott, Joseph T.	Keafauver, Charles M.
Grothous, D. B.	Kirwin, J. H.
Grillett, James	Kennedy, W. W.
Gibson, William	Kugler, Frank J.
Graule, Frederick	Keech, E. P.
Ganter, Francis X.	Kahler, J. J.
Garrittson, J. H.	Kunkel, William F.
Garrigues, H. H.	Kuhn, Charles N.
Hines, Jesse R.	Kensett, John R.
Hilberg, John A.	Kahler, J. A. Charles
Hall, William	Kann, Solomon

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Kraft, Charles
 Lyons, Robert
 Loane, Henry E.
 Lincoln, Francis
 Lincoln, H. M.
 Leeds, Edward
 Larkin, Edward
 Latrobe, John H. B.
 Lee, George W.
 Langgood, Samuel
 Lautenbach, Ferdinand
 McKennedy, John M.
 Miller, John M.
 Medairy, Jacob H.
 Musselman, Hiram D.
 Muth, Louis
 Mallalien, Thomas
 McGinn, R. C.
 Murphy, Richard D.
 Mills, Isaac N.
 Meakin, Nathaniel
 Mitchell, H. M.
 McCron, Rev. John
 Myers, William H.
 Musselman, John H.
 Meredith, Gilmore
 McRea, Thomas, Jr.
 Macdonald, J. H.
 Mongano, L.
 Marshall, William H.
 Mitchell, James
 Michael, Charles W.
 McKee, William F.
 Mattson, Charles
 Macdonald, F. Y.
 Mitchell, Joseph T.
 Nelker, A. H.
 Norris, J. Olney
 Numsen, William N.
 Numsen, William H.
 Newman, Louis
 Oliver, J. W.
 Oehm, F. F.
 Owens, George H.

Oppenheimer, L.
 Owen, Wyatt
 Poller, H. C.
 Price, J. W.
 Patterson, Joseph B.
 Prestman, Thomas R.
 Porter, John E.
 Peterson, William N.
 Patterson, William H.
 Richardson, John
 Rosoello, A.
 Rieman, W. H.
 Reekfuss, W. K.
 Robinson, George M.
 Reese, Henry O.
 Robb, John A.
 Reinhardt, John
 Robertson, Henry G.
 Ross, George H.
 Reese, Henry F.
 Reiff, Daniel
 Ring, Lewis
 Reynolds, George B.
 Schwab, M.
 Slater, John Y.
 Smoot, W. H.
 Smith, W. H.
 Sultzer, W. H. H.
 Stevens, Ezra L.
 Spear, A. L.
 Simpson, Robert
 Solter, George L.
 Stanton, D. L.
 Stacy, Stimpson
 Stowe, Thomas G.
 Samuel, Daniel
 Skinner, Joseph G.
 Sollers, George L.
 Stevens, F. Putnam
 Sattler, George William
 Smith, James F.
 Stolpp, C. Frederick
 Stevens, Charles P.
 Strauss, William H.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Strauss, Solomon	Volk, Frances
Sessions, Joseph A.	Vonderhorst, Henry R.
Schwinn, George	Wentz, William A.
Schwartz, John A.	Woolf, H. L. P.
Server, M. T.	Wyatt, L. C.
Smith, Thomas H.	Wood, Charles J.
Schaub, John	Wallace, Richard M.
Snyder, William Louis	Wheeler, William H.
Sander, Henry	Wilhelm, J. Frank
Teal, George McK.	Whitehouse, James
Tickner, William J.	Waidner, Louis A.
Townsend, William E.	Watson, James E.
Trader, Josephus	West, C. C.
Thornton, Beniah	Waidner, H. A.
Tyson, John S.	Winter, F. C.
Thomas, John L. Jr.	White, Edwin F.
Thomas, John B.	Weaver, Wm. H.
Thomas, W. H.	Wright, H. C.
Tuttle, Frank L.	Young, Edwin S.
Tegges, Nicholas	Young, James

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

North, W. H.

Withdrawn :

Arthur, W. W.	Koors, William
Birely, Louis A.	Knull, D. R.
Cruse, John H.	Lowenbach, M.
Duvall, W. E.	Oldershaw, J. B.
Johnson, Joseph S.	

Deceased :

Bell, Rev. Henry	Morgan, D. V.
Berry, James L.	Snowden, Richard H.
Coon, Louis C.	Sheeler, John
Lazear, William L.	Woolford, Thomas E.

Suspended by Lodge :

Bennett, Louis H.

Suspended by Chapter :

Gorman, A. T.	Williar, George P.
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JERUSALEM, No. 9, Baltimore.

Meets at Masonic Temple on the second and fourth Mondays of each Month.

OFFICERS:

C. C. ISAACS,	High Priest.
J. YOUNG BOYLE,	King.
J. W. WAUGH,	Scribe.
JAS. A. WHITING,	Treasurer.
CHAS. F. ACHEY,	Secretary.
CHAS. E. KEMP,	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

E. S. COURTNEY, P.: G.: H.: P.:
H. L. EMMONS, Jr., P.: G.: H.: P.:
C. F. ACHEY, P.: G.: H.: P.:
E. T. SCHULTZ, P.: D.: G.: H.: P.:
F. J. S. GORGAS, G.: Scribe.
F. C. BARRETT, P.: H.: P.:
T. W. WARFIELD, P.: H.: P.:
W. F. COCHRAN, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Jas. M.	Batchelor, H. C.
Achey, Chas. F.	Byrne, Thos. F.
Anderson, J. H.	Baetjer, W. T.
Abrahams, W.	Baetjer, J. Geo.
Aler, John W.	Baughman, F. S.
Albertson, Isaac	Boyle, J. Young
Almony, E. B.	Biggs, J. J.
Abbot, J. Walter	Bloomer, Wm. E.
Aldridge, J. Kenard	Brown, R. Howard
Arnold, W. E.	Banks, Morton D.
Abrahams, N. W.	Baird, Alex. S.
Burt, A. P.	Bruff, Thos. E.
Bedford, J. R. L.	Bosley, W. H.
Bentzel, H. J.	Courtney, E. S.
Bass, W. Alex.	Carroll, Albert H.
Barrett, F. O.	Campbell, John H.
Beck, John F.	Cannon, Thos. J.
Beck, John	Connaway, Jas. B.
Boyd, James A.	Cockey, Geo. B.
Butler, Jas. H.	Coebrane, R. M.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Cross, John C.	Hunter, Andrew
Correll, S. D.	Hewell, Jas. L.
Correa, M. O.	Hawkins, J. W.
Cochran, Wm. F.	Hooper, Edward L.
Chichester, S. R.	Herman, John
Clarke, Geo. R.	Hassencamp, F. Jr.
Conway, F. K.	Holladay, John Guy
Corner, W. E.	Haas, John P.
Cathell, Jas. L.	Hopkins, G. P. of Wm.
Davidson, W. J.	Hopkins, Josiah B.
Dulaney, John M.	Hammond, Thos. B.
Deer, J. J.	Hooper, J. W.
Dupar, H. T.	Isaacs, C. C.
Emmons, H. L. Jr.	Isaac, Wm. M.
Emory, Daniel H.	Jennings, N. Hynson
Emory, John H.	Jones, Geo. W.
Etchberger, Wm. E.	Kleibacher, C. B.
Ewell, John	Koller, John A. J.
Edwards, S. R.	King, Calvin J.
Frietag, Phillip	Kurtz, Thos.
Frainie, Geo.	Klinefelter, Ge.
Fitzgerald, Henry	Kanne, Wm. H.
Forrest, Geo. W.	Koppelman, Chas.
Glocker, Theo.	Kooke, G. F.
Griffith, R. R. Jr.	Latchford, John D.
Gminder, Jacob	Lips, Theo. F.
Gantz, Henry	Lanchlin, John M.
Goetz, John A. G.	Lawton, John L.
Gorgas, F. J. S.	Loose, August
Gambrill, Wm. B.	Lentz, A. G.
Gill, Wm. H.	Martin, David
Gosnell, Wm. T.	Marshall, Thos. B.
Greer, John J.	Meykrantz, Henry
Gernand, R. H.	Mehlgarten, Chas.
Guest, John W.	Mittnacht, Henry
Gisriel, Wm.	Melbourne, L. J.
Houck, Samuel	Magraw, A. R.
Hopkins, Gideon P.	McComas, Jas. A.
Hamilton, M. A.	Macy, Wm. D.
Hynson, Chas. E.	Myers, August G.
Horner, Joshua Jr.	Maloney, D. A.
Hadaway, Wm. H.	Maner, Chas. A.
Hook, R. Edwin	Nicklas, John
Hartman, W. H.	Price, Geo. R.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Percivall, Chas. F.	Schminke, P. F.
Plitt, Geo.	Tarbutton, W. A.
Parker, J. Kos.	Turner, H. F.
Pritchard, A. J.	Taylor, Geo. W.
Perry, B. T.	Terhune, J. M.
Porter, F. E.	Thompson, R. H.
Poultney, E.	Titcomb, B.
Petze, H. Herman	Talls, R. J. H.
Perkins, John T.	Tyrell, John P.
Poske, H. F.	Thoms, Peter
Prime, Eli S.	Tyler, E. B.
Peding, John E.	Templeman, Jas. A.
Pitcher, J. W.	Tura, Raphael
Reese, John E.	Taylor, Geo. M.
Robertson, Alvin	Underhill, H. P.
Ruby, Wm. H.	Virtue, Chas. W.
Reeves, Chas. H.	Woodward, D. A.
Ritchie, Albert	Watson, Thos. O.
Stansbury, Jas. E.	Warfield, Thos. W.
Schultz, E. T.	Walker, N. C.
Sewell, Thos. Jr.	Whiting, Jas. A.
Stewart, C. J.	Wile, John A.
Soine, Geo. W.	Wamaling, C. T.
Sadtler, Geo. W.	Waring, W. E.
Shoemaker, Wm. M.	Wedge, W. S., Jr.
Sindall, J. P.	Womble, J. G.
Stirratt, Wm. H.	Webster, J. J. G.
Schlegel, Henry	Watkins, J. M.
Sperry, A. M.	Winkleman, J. H.
Shannon, W. A.	Ware, Wm. B.
Selby, Wm. H.	Waugh, J. W.
Scates, J. H.	Yoe, B. R.
Sellman, Jas. L.	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Dowell, Everett S.

Williams, E. Jones

PAST MASTER:

Evans, Ellijoh

Withdrawn:

Emmart, A. D.	Lyman, Albert
Eccles, Sam'l J.	Milliken, Wm. H.
Fisher, J. M.	May, A. R.
Guyton, H. P.	Read, Wm. H.
Innes, A. L.	Wilson, A. Jr.

Deceased :

Green, Elisha

Mulliken, Chas. E.

Expelled :

Stevenson, G. W.

Suspended :

Bash, John H.

Perkinson, C. N.

Conrad, J. M. M.

Quartley, Arthur

Dunham, F. B.

Royston, E. B.

Hart, Jas. T.

Richards, Jas. T.

McCurley, Jas. Jr.

Smyth, R. M.

Price, Norman R.

Warren, S. B.

CHESAPEAKE, No. 17, Salisbury.

Meets at Masonic Hall, Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

OFFICERS:

WILLIAM WALLER,	.	.	.	.	.	.	High Priest.
L. E. WILLIAMS,	.	.	.	.	.	.	King.
S. P. DENNIS,	.	.	.	.	.	.	Scribe.
W. W. GORDY,	.	.	.	.	.	.	Treasurer.
ISAAC S. ADAMS,	.	.	.	.	.	.	Secretary.
JAMES E. CATHELL,	.	.	.	.	.	.	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIEST AND PAST GRAND OFFICER:

F. M. SLEMONS, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adams, Isaac S.

Johnson, Jno. D.

Cathell, W. H.

Morris, J. J.

Cathell, James E.

Parsons, J. Augustus

Dennis, S. P.

Prettyman, Rev. T. J.

Dare, Rev. Joseph

Slemons, A. B.

Dawson, Thos. C.

Slemons, F. M.

Gordy, W. W.

Toadwin, E. Stanley

Huston, V. R.

Waller, William

Jackson, E. E.

Williams, L. E.

Jackson, R. W.

MARK MASTER:

Willing, James R.

Withdrawn:

Lewin, Rev. Meyer

Deceased:

Fulton, Rev. William

SALEM, No. 18, Cumberland.

Meets at Cumberland, Allegany County, Md., on the second and fourth Tuesdays
of each month.

OFFICERS:

DAVID P. WELFLEY,	. . . . .	High Priest.
GEORGE M. DEETZ,	. . . . .	King.
WILL H. LOWDERMILK,	. . . . .	Scribe.
S. ROSENHEIM,	. . . . .	Treasurer.
WILLIAM E. TURNER,	. . . . .	SECRETARY.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

SAMUEL M. HALLER, P.: H.: P.:

JOHN H. GEPHART, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Barrett, Benjamin	Nelson, Joseph
Brace, William	Parsons, George W.
Barker, Henry	Piper, W. J.
Clark, A. J.	Rosenheim, S.
Deetz, George M.	Seay, Charles A.
Edwards, Samuel J.	Shriver, Henry
Emmill, L. A. A.	Smemmer, Alonzo W.
Enfield, A.	Snow, Alonzo
Ferguson, James A.	Shryer, Thomas W.
Gephart, John H.	Stone, R. L.
Griffith, William E.	Stubblefield, J. Clark
Haller, Samuel M.	Turner, John S.
Hamill, Patrick	Turner, William E.
Heck, William	Vance, John T.
Hamburger, Isaac L.	Venners, Sr., Thomas
Hartman, Ernest	Webster, George W.
Johnson, Henry J.	Welfley, David P.
Jones, H. B.	Wellington, George L.
Lowdermilk, Will. H.	Weir, John
Murphy, Peter H.	Yutzy, Enoch D.

Suspended by Lodge :

Cruzen, Jno. R.

Suspended for Non-payment of Dues :

Davidson, W. L.

Gardner, John

ST. JOHN'S, No. 19, Baltimore.

Meets at Masonic Temple on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

OFFICERS :

MATHEW W. DONAVIN,	High Priest.
HENRY C. LARRABEE,	King.
JOHN B. EMERY,	Scribe.
JOHN SANDERSON,	Treasurer.
EDMUND J. OPPELT,	Secretary.
ALEXANDER WAGNER,	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

H. J. IRWIN, P.: H.: P.:
 ROBT. K. MARTIN, P.: G.: Capt. of the Host.
 ED. J. OPPELT, G.: King.
 J. HENRY WEBER, P.: H.: P.:
 JOS. E. TYLER, P.: H.: P.:
 WM. F. C. GERHARDT, P.: H.: P.:
 JACOB E. KREBS, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allers, Jno. A.	Banks, Andrew
Applegarth, Nath. J.	Barke, John
Amidon, Jno. P.	Bartlett, E. L.
Archer, Jas. M.	Bangs, Frank
Adreon, Harrison	Cunningham, W. A.
Ash, Isadore	Cockey, W. H.
Burns, Wm. F.	Chaimberlain, D. L.
Beard, G. W.	Cunningham, J. E. A.
Belt, Wm.	Cross, Jno. W.
Bantz, E.	Cummings, W. A.
Blum, Wm.	Coleman, John S.
Bians, Martin	Cook, Gilbert C.
Brummel, Jos. H.	Cleaveland, E. R.
Burgess, S. O.	Cornell, Jno. H.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Collmus, R. S.	High, John W.
Cox, Jas. S.	Hall, John H. Jr.
Collins, Francis	Harryman, J. G.
Clift, Mark A. G.	Harvey, W. P.
Danner, E. D.	Harvey, Robt. M.
Dorsey, Jos.	Hamilton, Peter
Donavin, M. W.	Hodge, Wm. E.
Distler, John C.	Hand, H. C.
Donohue, J. Denny	Hubner, John
Dukehart, Graham	Hunter, Thos. J.
Dukehart, John	Heron, Alex.
Emery, John B.	Hill, J. Harvey
Eichelberger, H.	Hooper, Geo. G.
Ewens, John F.	Houck, John T.
Ellsler, Henry	Herring, L. E.
Evans, Jas.	Herring, M. L.
Elsroad, John T.	Hutchinson, James
Earle, H. A.	Hax, Louis
Eisenbrandt, H. R.	Houston, Alex. B.
East, Robt. P.	Hayward, T. J.
Elliott, Wm. E.	Hagan, E. H.
Fryer, James	Irwin, H. J.
Frey, Jacob	Ives, John A.
Foble, H. D.	Ives, James H.
Foreman, Thos.	Knabe, E.
Freybe, Ferd.	Kenly, John R.
Friedel, Peter	Krebs, Jacob E.
Foreman, Leander	Kopp, F. H.
Farquhar, John C.	Kromer, John J.
Frederick, Wm. T.	King, John R.
Farrior, Henry	Klinesmith, W. H.
Gale, Jos. H.	Kimball, W. C.
Gunther, John	Kemper, A.
Griffith, Wm. B.	Kaufman, D.
Gerhardt, W. F. C.	Krebs, J. Wesley
Gehr, Geo. R.	Likes, Jacob
Gaither, Thos. B.	Lindsay, Geo. W.
Grinsfelder, Moses	Lloyd, John.
Gutterwiller, H. J.	Latrobe, F. C.
Goshih, W. S.	Littleton, Chas. L.
Goslin, Thos. H.	Louis, Steven
Harris, Jos.	Laughlin, D.
Hammond, John D.	Layer, E. J.
Hatter, Chas. W.	Larrabee, H. C.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Lanpheimer, M.
 Leitch, B. Frank
 Lambda, Augustus
 Linthicum, Saml.
 Landon, Thos. F.
 Lix, Jules G.
 Mann, Chas. H.
 Meyer, Aug. G.
 Moore, J. Faris
 Mittendorf, Chas.
 Morse, Thos. W.
 McDonnell, James
 Mitchell, Jas. F.
 Marshall, John E.
 Martin, Robt. K.
 Mason, Geo. H.
 Marriott, G. H. M.
 McKellip, Wm. R.
 Mason, E. H.
 McComas, Geo. M.
 Markland, Wm. T.
 Motz, R. F.
 Menger, H.
 Mulliken, B. F.
 Maul, E. A.
 Mayer, C. L.
 Milroy, John
 Mohr, George
 Mason, S. R.
 Malloy, J. D.
 Muir, John D.
 McCoubray, Thos. Jr.,
 Numsen, John W.
 Norris, James
 Nickum, W. C.
 Nelson, Louis
 Newbold, D. M.
 Oppenheimer, S.
 Oppelt, Edmund J.
 O'Hara, B.
 Otto, Geo. W. T.
 Oppelt, Wm. C.
 Oesterla, A. J.
 Parrish, Wm. F.
 Pollack, W. A.

Pentland, James
 Parrish, James H.
 Perkins, H. C.
 Parus, Zeno F.
 Price, R. L.
 Parrott, Jno. C.
 Packham, E. Jr.,
 Reese, James W.
 Register, S. W.
 Russell, E. Walton
 Robins, A. K.
 Reinhardt, M. E.
 Reuter, Chas.
 Rigney, Geo. E. M.
 Sanderson, Jno.
 Sauerburg, J. D.
 Schultz, A. H.
 Schad, Geo.
 Savage, Chas. E.
 Staeblein, Theo.
 Shields, Thos.
 Schenkel, Jacob
 Schaeffer, Wm.
 Saville, W. O.
 Spicer, Geo. W.
 Smith, John E.
 Schroeder, Jacob W.
 Shock, J. W.
 Shriver, D. H.
 Shilling, Geo.
 Sweeney, Alfred
 Shryock, Wm. H.
 Straughn, Wm. V.
 Shock, Wilton G.
 Schumacher, C.
 Stallings, J. W.
 Sinclair, Wm. F.
 Suter, Ed. P.
 Starr, Jr., Geo. W.
 Scoggins, S. R.
 Sanders, Harry
 Sharretts, Wm. L.
 Tegmeyer, Jno. H.
 Tyler, Jos. E.
 Trust, Edwin H.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Ulrich, John	Wilson, W. T.
Whiting, James	Wright, Jos. H.
Waite, Sam'l R.	Watson, James E.
Wright, Jno. A.	Wild, Fred. W.
Wagner, B. L.	Wehr, Aug.
Weber, J. Henry	Wiley, Alex.
Wagner, Alex.	White, J. J.
Wilber, H. O.	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Maxwell, Jno. C.	Warfield, H. M.
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PAST MASTERS:

Holton, H. B.	Miles, Sam'l G.
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MARK MASTERS:

Rider, Geo. W.	Reed, Francis
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Deceased:

Newman, Lawson J.	Owens, James
Schaffer, A. D.	Wilson, Wm. Jr.,

Withdrawn:

Carr, R. Wilson	Morehead, John
Davis, John W.	House, Wm. A.
Gotee, Kelly	Snow, Chas. G.

Suspended:

Allen, Joseph H.	Krebs, W. H. W
Bians, Wm. H.	Little, John C.
Bash, A. M.	Nonas, H. S.
Chinet, Victor S.	Rogers, Alex.
Douglass, Thos. J.	Roberts, C. M.
Dashields, Wm. H.	Roberts, Wm. H.
Gray, G. T.	Sisson, M. A.
Heaton, Richard H.	Stevenson, Jno. M.
Hutchinson, Elias S.	Taylor, G. W. W.
Haydon, Chas. B.	White, T. G.
Jones, Wm. D.	Walker, P. H.
Kilgour, John	

Expelled by Lodge:

Savin, Felix A.

ADONIRAM, No. 21, Baltimore.

Meets at Masonic Temple, on the first and third Mondays of each month.

OFFICERS:

NATHAN LEHMAN,	. . . . .	High Priest.
F. LEWIS SCHAEFER,	. . . . .	King.
JOHN W. STAUM,	. . . . .	Scribe.
S. FRANKENSTEIN	. . . . .	Treasurer.
CHAS. McDONALD, Jr.,	. . . . .	Secretary.
W. H. NICHOLSON,	. . . . .	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

JAMES W. BOWERS, P.: G.: H.: P.:
 PHILIP S. FIELD, P.: D.: G.: H.: P.:
 CHAS. T. SISCO, G.: Treasurer.
 E. P. BARRINGTON, P.: H.: P.:
 CHAS. W. DORSEY, P.: H.: P.:
 HARRY H. FLACK, P.: H.: P.:
 CHAS. E. KEMP, P.: H.: P.:
 DAVID HUTZLER, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Affelder, Max	Ellinger, Julius
Allard, Edward C.	Frankenstein, S.
Barrington, E. P.	Frankenstein, S. Jr.,
Blocher, W. L.	Field, Philip S.
Bowers, James W.	Feige, Frederick
Bamburger, A.	Flack, Harry H.
Bantz, H. H.	Fundenberg, W. F.
Buchsbaum, Henry	Floss, S. W.
Bastable, Jas. G.	Gosnell, Chas. H.
Burkheimer, Wm.	Gross, Frank P.
Brenner, Moses	Garrett, M.
Binding, Henry	Gissel, Christian
Cox, William Henry	Gallmyer, Julius
Carmichael, T. E.	Herring, Geo. W.
Collum, W.	Hammond, W. S.
Clark, James P.	Hutzler, David
Chateau, Thos. E.	Humphreys, Enos
Dorsey, Chas. W.	Hamburger, M.
Dwinelle, J. E.	Henry, Joseph
Daniel, John H.	Hesse, Christian
Edwards, Chas. G.	Hutzler, Chas. G.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Henry, Samuel	Phelps, J. T.
Hagan, C.	Reifle, Henry F.
Hamilton, S. M.	Rau, C. F.
Hutzler, A. G.	Reinhard, H. E.
Hollingshead, Francis	Redsecker, A. R.
Hollingshead, James	Stine, Joseph
Hietzman, Matthias	Smoot, G. W.
Kampe, F. Henry	Shipley, W. B.
Knight, Robert	Steifle, E. W.
Kemp, Chas. E.	Steidham, J. F.
Kessler, George	Snyder, J. Henry
Kauffman, S. C.	Swearer, Chas.
Kendall, George	Sisco, Chas. T.
Koshland, Moses	Slothower, W. T.
Lehman, Nathan	Seldner, Lewis
Lerian, Jacob	Switzer, Geo. F.
Linthicum, J. G.	Smith, D. S.
Lindau, Jos. E.	Sachs, Justin
Lewis, Chas. T.	Spencer, E. Needles
Leimbach, Gebhard	Schaefer, Henry
Megary, Alexander	Schaefer, F. Lewis
Manger, Martin M.	Staum, John W.
Morris, Henry	Striven, D.
Moran, Robt. H.	Snyder, August
Moon, Edward H.	Turner, Lewis Jr.
Manasse, Nathan	Thiemyer, H. A.
Mann, T. J.	Walter, H. Edward
McAllister, R. J.	White, J. P.
Marston, Henry W.	Wannenwiche, F.
McDonald, Charles, Jr	Welslager, R. M.
Morrison, J. Frank	Walker, P. H.
Meyer, G. A.	Walker, S. C.
McIlvain, Alexander	Wylie, Samuel
McKenny, W. I.	Wilson, J. Harrison
Mahr, John	Wacker, Philip
Manken, Henry	Westheimer, Harris
Morris, Thomas	Westheimer, Henry
New, Bernard	Walter, Joseph
Nicholson, W. H.	Wash, Wm. J.
Oppenheim, A. J.	Zimmerman, Rev. Geo. H.
Pels, Moses	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Clark. Wm. E.

PAST MASTERS:

Howell, George

Wiesenfeld, David

MARK MASTERS:

Blum, Gumby S.
Goodman, Jacob
McTeer, Chas. E.

New, Marks
Tolson, Wm. H.

Withdrawn:

Arthur, J. F.
Hart, Robt. M.
Kampe, J. F.
Kerngood, William
Kerngood, Tobias

Lucy, Chas. A.
Pagels, Edward
Riggs, Edward
Spuch, Christian

Suspended for Nonpayment of dues:

Addison, John D.
Drakeley, George
Dunning, Jos. H.
Feige, A. H.
Frank, Henry
Goldman, Edward
Gardner, Richard F.

Harris, Chas. F.
Head, Henry H.
Knight, Geo. J.
Muir, J. H.
Marston, Joseph H.
Reign, David M.
Reed, Jacob

Deceased:

Noel, Henry R.



TALBOT, No. 22, Easton, Md.

Meets at Easton, Talbot County, Md., on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

OFFICERS:

DAVID C. AVERY,	High Priest.
CHAS. H. GIBSON,	King.
CHAS. E. SHANNAHAN,	Scribe.
L. DODSON, Sr.,	Treasurer.
R. J. TRIPPE,	Secretary.
JOS. H. WHITE,	Janitor.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

WALTER H. THOMPSON, P.: H.: P.:
S. B. SUTHERLAND, P.: H.: P.:
J. G. MILLER, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Avery, D. C.	Miller, J. G.
Benson, James	Maloy, J. E.
Brown, N. M.	O'Neil, William
Bateman, J. M. H.	Powell, I. C. W.
Covington, J. H.	Sutherland, S. B.
Dodd, Alex.	Satterfield, J. M.
Dodson, Leonidas	Shannahan, C. E.
Edmunds, Geo.	Straughn, John
Fountain, A. W.	Shui, F.
Foble, Jas. J.	Thompson, W. H.
Gibson, C. H.	Thomas, Richard
Graham, J. V. H.	Tyler, Geo. T.
Harper, W. H. D.	Trippe, R. J.
Hignutt, Jos. E.	Trippe, E. R.
Hughlett, Thos.	Thompson, J. F.
Jump, Robt. J.	White, Jos. H.
Mobray, Geo. W.	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Turner, J. Frank

MARK MASTERS:

Councill, R. H. S
Townsend, S. H.

Lassell, J. S.

Withdrawn:

Ford, H. Jr.,

ENOCH, No. 23, Frederick.

Meets at Frederick City, Maryland, on the second and fourth Mondays of
each month.

OFFICERS:

C. V. S. LEVY,	High Priest.
CHARLES C. SMITH,	King.
ISAAC LOWENSTEIN,	Scribe.
HENRY GOLDENBERG,	Treasurer.
F. A. MARKEY,	Secretary.
F. T. RHODES,	Janitor.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Aisquith, Henry	Hopkins, Charles H.
Brewer, Samuel R.	Iglehart, William
Brewer, John J.	Johnson, James I.
Brown, James H.	Jones, Thomas J. K.
Button, Elijah J. M.	McGregor, James M.
Bellis, William H.	Munroe, Grafton
Clayton, R. V.	Marshall, Jos. M.
Colton, L. F.	Michelson, Alfred
Clayton, Louis S.	Prudhomme, L. F.
Cradler, Geo. E.	Silver, Robert
Davis, J. T.	Taylor, Geo. M.
Edwards, Wm. B.	Vansant, James H.
Franklin, Thomas	Wells, James
Gorman, Wm. H.	Wilson, Charles A.
Handy, D. C.	Walker, Asa
Hodges, James H.	

Withdrawn:

Woolford, Roger

Suspended by Lodge:

Bollman, Thos. W.	Clayton, C. McC.
Pinkard, H. M.	Wells, A. W.

OHR, No. 26, Mount Savage.

Meets at Mt. Savage, Allegany County, Md., on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

OFFICERS:

N. W. HOWSON,	High Priest.
H. J. KENAH,	King.
A. J. HOOFNAGLE,	Scribe.
S. A. MUNN,	Treasurer.
A. B. TURNER,	Secretary.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

CHARLES H. OHR, P.: G.: H.: P.:
E. L. PARKER, Jr. D.: G.: H.: P.:
A. B. TURNER, P.: H.: P.:
W. J. WALKER, P.: H.: P.:

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Dick, Wm. L.	Ohr, Charles H.
Evans, Thomas E.	Reagan, Jerimiah
Hoofnagle, Andrew J.	Ryland, George W.
Hinkle, John	Sommerville, John Jr.
Howson, N. W.	Shaw, Wm. L.
Johnson, Chas. D.	Samson, Robert
Kenah, Henry J.	Steward, James
Munn, Samuel A.	Turner, A. B.
Marshal, John	Tennant, A. W.
Parker, Edwin L. Jr.	Walker, Wm. J.
Philips, Richard	Wack, Chas. B.

Suspended:

Fundenburg, S. H.

Suspended by Lodge:

McCulloh, Robert C.

 DRUID, No. 28, Baltimore.

Meets at Presstman Hall, Baltimore city, on the first and third Tuesday of
each month.

OFFICERS:

THOMAS J. SHRYOCK,	High Priest.
THOMAS H. KELLEY,	King.
T. SOLLERS WATERS,	Scribe.
J. HENRY KNEEL, Jr.,	Treasurer.
WM. M. WILLSON,	Secretary.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

JAMES B. PURCELL, P.: H.: P.:

GEO. W. SHEIVE, P.: H.: P.:

Rev. JOS. B. STITT, G.: Chaplain.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Bowen, Jas. S.	Ohlgart, George P., Jr.
Baldwin, Wm. N.	Oldershaw, John B.
Brackenridge, A.	Peach, Wm. O.
Cadden, Jas. R.	Penniman, Horace
Carroll, Wm. K.	Purcell, Rev. James B.
Courtney, Wm. T.	Rear, Wm. A. O.
Daneker, Wm. H.	Rhodes, C. C.
Gibson, Chas. E.	Roe, John W.
Gibson, George G.	Ross, John T.
Hooper, Chas. A.	Ryan, Wm. R.
Hooper, Jas. E.	Sheive, Geo. W.
Johnson, Wm. J.	Shipley, Chas. H.
Kelley, Thos. H.	Shyrock, Thos. J.
Kirby, John T.	Shultz, John
Knell, J. Henry, Jr.	Stitt, Rev. Jos. B.
Lemmon, George W.	Waters, T. S.
May, Wm.	Willson, Wm. M.
McCullough, Wm. E.	Wood, Chas. W.
Meeth, John	Woods, Nicholas
Mohar, Robert	

Withdrawn :

Bush, Stephen C.

Suspended by Lodge :

Davis, Wm. E.

RECAPITULATION, showing the numerical condition of the several Chapters of this jurisdiction, with the work of the past year
and amounts due and paid by each to the Grand Chapter of Maryland at the Annual Convocation, November, 1878.

NAME AND No. CHAPTER.	Number of members per last return.	ADD.			Total.	DEDUCT.					Present No. Members	Rejected.	Amount due by the several Chapters to the Grand Chapter.	Amount paid by the several Chapters to the Grand Chapter.
		Exalted since.	Affiliated.	Reinstated.		Withdrawn.	Died.	Dismissed for non-pay't dues	Suspended.	Expelled.				
Concordia, - - - No. 1	138	4	-	-	145	6	2	-	18	1	118	-	\$ 122 75	\$ 122 75
Phoenix, - - - " 7	293	2	-	1	296	9	8	-	3	-	276	-	226 00	226 00
Jerusalem, - - - " 9	204	13	1	-	218	10	2	-	12	1	193	-	191 50	191 50
Chesapeake, - - - " 17	20	1	-	-	21	1	1	-	-	-	19	-	17 75	17 75
Salem, - - - " 18	43	-	-	-	43	-	-	-	3	-	40	-	32 25	32 25
Saint John's, - - - " 19	248	6	1	-	255	6	4	-	22	1	222	-	205 25	205 25
Adoniram, - - - " 21	144	3	-	-	147	9	1	-	14	-	123	-	116 25	116 25
Talbot, - - - " 22	28	1	2	3	34	1	-	-	-	-	33	-	31 50	31 50
Enoch, - - - " 23	42	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	31 50	31 50
Mt. Vernon, - - - " 25	36	-	-	-	36	1	-	-	4	-	31	-	27 00	27 00
Ohr, - - - " 26	24	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	2	-	22	-	18 00	18 00
Druid, - - - " 28	37	3	1	-	41	1	-	-	1	-	39	-	38 75	38 75
	1,257	36	5	4	1,302	44	18	-	79	3	1,158	-	\$ 1,058 50	\$ 1,058 50

Standing Resolutions.

November 15, 1853, p. 57.

Resolved, That the resolution passed by the General Grand Chapter, at its late session, "That it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry on candidates, whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of those degrees," meets with the cordial approval and concurrence of this Grand Chapter.

November 11, 1856, p. 21.

Resolved, That all the Subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction, are hereby required to procure and keep mark books for the registry of the marks of their respective members.

November 18, 1857, pp. 40, 41.

Resolved, That no candidate shall be exalted in any Chapter in this jurisdiction, unless by dispensation, until he has made sufficient proficiency in the preceding degrees to satisfy the Council that he can make himself known in these degrees. The examination as to said proficiency to be had in open M.: E.: Masters Lodge.

Resolved, That it is incompetent for any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter to advance a candidate for exaltation who is not affiliated with some warranted Lodge, unless by dispensation.

November 14, 1858, p. 48.

Resolved, That it shall not hereafter be lawful for any Subordinate Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction, to receive the petition of any person for the degrees conferred therein, unless such person shall have resided within this Grand Jurisdiction, for the space of six months last preceding such application.

January 14, 1873, p. 5.

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be required to visit each Chapter in this jurisdiction, at least once during each year, and receive an annual compensation of one hundred dollars therefor, and in addition to said salary, shall be paid his actual expenses incurred in visiting Chapters located out of the City of Baltimore.

Resolved, That the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, in company with such installed Grand Officers as he may deem necessary, be and he is hereby requested to visit the Subordinate Chapters at least once a year, and that he is hereby empowered to draw on the Grand Treasurer for all monies necessary to defray the expenses of such visits.

November 9, 1874, p. 15.

Resolved, By this Grand Chapter that no High Priest elect shall be installed unless he is competent to confer the traditional work of all the degrees conferred in a Chapter of R. A. Masons.

November 8, 1875, pp. 12, 13.

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be instructed to furnish a proper form of examination in the several degrees, subject to the approval of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest.

Resolved, That all candidates being so called actual Past Masters, shall hereafter have conferred upon them the essential portion of the Past Master's degree, before they can receive the succeeding degrees.

November 9, 1875, p. 19.

Resolved, That it shall not be competent for the High Priest of any Chapter within this jurisdiction, to exalt to the degree of Royal Arch, any brother who has not previously recorded his particular mark in the book of Marks.

LIST OF GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS

In Correspondence with the Grand Chapter of Maryland, with the names and residences of their Grand Secretaries, and date of last Communication received by Grand Secretary.

GRAND CHAPTERS	GRAND SECRETARIES.	ADDRESS.	DATE.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.....	1877
Arkansas.....	Luke E. Barber.....	Little Rock.....	1877
Canada... ..	David McClellan.....	Hamilton.....	1878
Connecticut.....	Jos. K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.....	1878
California.....	Thomas H. Caswell.....	San Francisco.....	1878
Colorado.....	E. C. Parmelle.....	Georgetown.....	1877
Dis't of Columbia	C. W. Hancock.....	Washington.....	1877
Delaware... ..	J. P. Allmond.....	Wilmington.....	1878
Florida	De Witt C. Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.....	1878
Georgia.....	J. Emmett Blackshear	Macon.....	1878
Illinois... ..	Gilbert W. Barnard....	Chicago.....	1877
Indiana.....	John M. Bramwell.....	Indianapolis.....	1877
Iowa.....	Wm. B. Langridge.....	Muscatine.....	1877
Kentucky.....	Jos. H. Branham.....	Louisville.....	1878
Kansas.....	John M. Price.....	Atchison.....	1877
Louisiana.....	James C. Batchlor.....	New Orleans.....	1878
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.....	1878
Massachusetts.....	Z. H. Thomas, Jr.....	Boston.....	1877
Michigan	William P. Innes.....	Grand Rapids.....	1878
Minnesota.....	A. T. C. Peirson.....	Saint Paul... ..	1878
Mississippi.....	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.....	1878
Missouri.....	John W. Luke.....	Saint Louis.....	1878
New Hampshire..	George P. Cleaves.....	Concord.....	1878
New Jersey.....	Thomas J. Corson.....	Trenton.....	1877
New York.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo.....	1878
North Carolina...	Donald W. Bain.....	Raleigh.....	1878
Nebraska	William R. Bowen.....	Omaha.....	1877
Nova Scotia.....	James Gossip.....	Halifax.....	1876
Nevada.....	John D. Hammond.....	Carson City.....	1878
Ohio.....	James Nesbitt.....	Troy.....	1877
Oregon.....	R. P. Earhart.....	Portland.....	1878
Pennsylvania.....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.....	1877
Quebec.....	James T. McMinn.....	Montreal.....	1877
Rhode Island.....	William R. Greene.....	Providence.....	1878
South Carolina....	J. E. Burke	Charleston.....	1878
Tennessee.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.....	1877
Texas.....	Robert Brewster.....	Houston.....	1877
Virginia.....	William B. Isaacs.....	Richmond.....	1877
Vermont	W. H. S. Whitecomb.....	Burlington.....	1878
Wisconsin.....	John W. Woodhull.....	Milwaukee.....	1878
West Virginia.....	Odell S. Long.....	Wheeling.....	1876
G. G. Chapter.....	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo.....	1877

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF
MARYLAND.

As Revised and Adopted November 13th, 1878.

ARTICLE I.

THE GRAND CHAPTER—OF WHOM COMPOSED.

SECTION 1. This Grand Chapter shall be known by the name and style of THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF MARYLAND. It shall consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain and Grand Captain of the Host, and likewise of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Chapters over which they respectively preside, and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, Treasurers and Secretaries of this Grand Chapter, and the Past High Priests of the Subordinate Chapters. The first four Grand Officers and the first three officers of the Subordinate Chapters, may appear by proxy.

SEC. 2. No Companion can be an officer or member of the Grand Chapter, unless he be, at the same time, a member of some Subordinate Chapter.

ARTICLE II.

CONVOICATIONS AND GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION 1. The stated Convocations of this Grand Chapter shall be held in the City of Baltimore, on the second Tuesday in November, annually.

SEC. 2. Special Convocations of the Grand Chapter shall be called by the Grand High Priest, or, in his absence or physical inability, by the Deputy Grand High Priest, whenever deemed necessary.

SEC. 3. The Grand Chapter cannot be opened, unless there be present a representation of three Chapters.

SEC. 4. In the absence of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, the High Priest of the oldest Chapter represented, shall preside.

SEC. 5. As soon as the Grand Chapter, at any of its stated Convocations, is opened, and the record of the last Convocation is read or the reading dispensed with, the presiding officer shall appoint the following standing committees:

- Of Conference.
- On the Doings of Grand Officers.
- Of Accounts.
- Of Correspondence.
- Of Grievance.
- Of Unfinished Business.

ARTICLE III.

POWERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION. 1. The Grand Chapter has the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters within its jurisdiction; and shall receive appeals, redress grievances, and remove all complaints of the several Chapters, and shall have full power and authority, under the Grand Seal and sign manual of the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, attested by the Grand Secretary, to Constitute new Chapters, with authority to confer, in the following order, the degrees of Mark Master Mason, Past Master Mason, Most Excellent Master Mason, and Royal Arch Mason.

SEC. 2. During the recess of the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest, and in his absence, the Deputy Grand High Priest, shall have power to grant a Dispensation to a competent number of petitioners, possessing the necessary qualifications, empowering them to open a Chapter and con-

fer therein the four degrees specified in the previous section. But no Dispensation thus granted shall remain in force longer than the next stated Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE IV.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of either the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, or Grand Scribe, to install the High Priests elected to preside over the Subordinate Chapters, in person or by proxy; their other duties are too well known to be particularized in this article.

SEC. 2. The Grand Treasurer, for the time being, shall enter into bond with the Trustees of this Grand Chapter, in such sum as the Grand Chapter may deem sufficient, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office; he shall keep a set of books in proper order, which books being the property of the Grand Chapter, shall contain an account of all the money he shall have received and paid from time to time, on account and for the use of the Grand Chapter, and from whom received, and to whom paid, and by what authority; he shall attend in person, or by his deputy, with all the necessary books and papers of his office, at every Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and be ready with the same for inspection whenever required; he shall have his accounts fully posted and completed, so far as he is in possession of the documents, to lay before every Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 3. The Grand Secretary shall attend every Convocation of the Grand Chapter, with all the necessary books and papers of his office; he shall keep a true and faithful register of all the Subordinate Chapters, and all the members thereof, so far as the same shall be made known to him; all the books, records, papers, the seal, &c., kept by him in virtue of his office, shall be the property of the Grand Chapter, which he shall exhibit for inspection, or deliver up to its committee, whenever properly called for.

He shall purchase all the books and stationery for the Grand Chapter, and procure all its necessary printing to be done on the most reasonable terms, and his bills for the same shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer, after having been approved by the Grand High Priest.

He shall notify the Subordinate Chapters of all the stated Convocations of the Grand Chapter, within one month previous to the same, and shall give them as early notice of all Special Convocations as the urgency of the case may admit.

He shall have the minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, (such as are proper to be published,) printed within two months after the close of each stated Convocation, and shall transmit one copy thereof to each of the Grand Officers, and such number of copies to each Subordinate Chapter within this jurisdiction as the Grand High Priest may direct. He shall also transmit three copies to each of the several State Grand Chapters,

and one copy to each of the Officers of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

He shall be paid for his services two hundred dollars a year from the funds of the Grand Chapter.

He shall affix the seal of the Grand Chapter to all Warrants, certified copies of any portion of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and all Grand Royal Arch Diplomas or Certificates, which shall, without his signature and the Grand Seal so affixed, be null and void.

For the foregoing and other Masonic duties which the Grand Chapter may from time to time require to be done by him, either by resolution or otherwise, he shall be allowed the following compensation :

For affixing the seal of the Grand Chapter to a Dispensation for forming a new Chapter, two dollars, and to any other Dispensation, Certificate, or Diploma, one dollar, to be paid by the parties receiving the same ; for engrossing a Warrant or Charter for Constituting a new Chapter, and affixing the seal thereto, four dollars ; for every Grand Royal Arch Certificate he issues, the sum of one dollar and fifty cents, to be paid by the companion obtaining the certificate.

For transcribing documents or other papers on the files of the Grand Chapter, when required, (except for the Grand Chapter,) he shall be entitled to ten cents for every hundred words which he may write or cause to be written, to be paid by the person requiring the same.

SEC. 4. The Grand Lecturer shall visit all the Subordinate Chapters in the jurisdiction at least once every year, and impart to them such instructions in the Ritual of this Grand Chapter as they may need. He shall also report at each Annual Convocation the condition of the several Chapters. He shall receive such compensation for his services as the Grand Chapter may determine.

ARTICLE V.

CHARTERS, DISPENSATIONS, AND DIPLOMAS.

SECTION 1. No Dispensation to form a new Chapter, can be granted to a less number of Companions than nine. Nor can either of the Grand Officers issue the same, unless it has been recommended in open session by the Chapter nearest to the place in which the petitioners desire to form and hold their Chapter.

SEC. 2. No Charter can be granted to a less number of Companions than nine, nor unless the petition be recommended as required for Dispensation, except the petitioning Companions have been already working under a Dispensation ; and if a Chapter working under a Dispensation wishes to obtain a Charter, it must return its Dispensation to the Grand Chapter, at its next Convocation, with a true and fair copy of its proceedings, when, if the Grand Chapter approve the same, it may direct the Grand Secretary to issue a Charter.

SEC. 3. No public procession, for any purpose, except for funeral occasions, can take place without a Dispensation from the Grand High Priest, or in his absence, the Deputy Grand High Priest.

ARTICLE VI.

FEES AND DUES TO THE GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION 1. For every Dispensation to form a new Chapter, the Companions obtaining it shall pay ninety dollars, which sum shall in all cases be paid into the hands of the Grand Secretary before the Dispensation shall be issued. And in the event of a Charter being ordered, without a Dispensation first having been had, the Companions applying for the same, shall pay into his hands a like sum before such Charter shall be issued.

SEC. 2. Each Chapter shall pay to the Grand Chapter, at every stated Convocation thereof, the sum of two dollars for each Brother exalted since the last Convocation, and seventy-five cents for every Companion who has been a member of the Chapter at any time during that period.

ARTICLE VII.

BALLOTING AND VOTING.

SECTION 1. Balloting in all cases, and voting when required by the call of three members, shall be by Chapters, the Officers and the Permanent members of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 2. The Installed Grand Officers and all Permanent members of the Grand Chapter shall be entitled to one vote each, and each Chapter represented to one vote by its Representatives in person or by proxy, and said proxy shall be a member of the Chapter he represents.

SEC. 3. No Chapter can be deprived of its Representative vote by reason of its Representative or proxy being an officer or member of the Grand Chapter, and voting as such; provided however, that no member of this body shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right.

SEC. 4. The Grand High Priest, or other presiding officer, shall have the casting vote in all cases, except in the election of Grand Officers.

SEC. 5. No Chapter shall be entitled to a vote unless its dues be paid to the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6. No new Chapter shall be entitled to a vote, until its officers shall have been installed, and the Chapter shall have been regularly Constituted and registered.

SEC. 7. No vote shall be passed at a Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter, in which a distant Chapter or Companion is particularly concerned, unless such Chapter or Companion shall have been previously notified of the intention of the Grand Chapter to act on the business.

ARTICLE VIII.

REPRESENTATIVES AND REPRESENTATION.

The proper Representatives of a Chapter are the High Priest, King, and Scribe, whose duty it is to attend every Convocation of the Grand Chapter in person, or by proxy.

ARTICLE IX.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED.

SECTION 1. At every Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, there shall be elected, by ballot, the following named Grand Officers, in the order in which they stand, a majority of all the ballots cast being necessary to a choice, viz: Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Captain of the Host.

SEC. 2. In balloting, the Grand Secretary shall call over the votes in the following order:

Grand High Priest.
Deputy Grand High Priest.
Grand King.
Grand Scribe.
Grand Treasurer.
Grand Secretary.
Grand Chaplain.
Grand Captain of the Host.
Past Grand Officers, by their grades.
Chapters, according to seniority.
Past High Priests.

SEC. 3 No Companion can be installed as Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, or Grand Secretary, unless he shall be a High Priest or Past High Priest, and at the time a member of some Chapter under this jurisdiction.

SEC. 4. Immediately after the election of the installed officers, there shall be chosen by ballot, two Companions as Trustees for this Grand Chapter, to whom all bonds or other obligations shall be made for the ensuing twelve months.

ARTICLE X.

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT INSTALLED.

SECTION 1. There shall also be appointed by the Grand Council after their installation, at each Annual Convocation, the following named Grand Officers :

Grand Principal Sojourner.
Grand Royal Arch Captain.
Grand Masters of the Vails.
Two Grand Stewards.
Grand Lecturer.
Grand Janitor.

SEC. 2. Grand Inspectors shall be appointed whenever they are considered necessary, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XI.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The Grand Officers shall, if present, be installed on the last day of the Convocation at which they were elected.

SEC. 2. No Grand Officer to be installed can act as such until he shall have been installed.

ARTICLE XII.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. Every Chapter shall assemble for work at least once in three months, or oftener if necessary, except during the months of July, August and September, when it may assemble or not, at the option of the High Priest.

SEC. 2. Every Chapter shall make a complete return of all its members, at each stated Convocation of the Grand Chapter, stating particularly the date of each exaltation to the degree of Royal Arch Mason, the admissions, deaths, rejection of candidates, suspensions, expulsions, and reinstatements of members, accompanied with the whole amount of its dues to the Grand Chapter, together with its number, and the time and place of its stated Convocations, agreeably to the form which the Grand Secretary may from time to time direct, which return shall be signed by the High Priest, King and Scribe, and attested by the Secretary ; and any Chapter that shall fail to make such return, and pay its dues to the Grand Chapter, for two stated Convocations in succession, shall be deemed extinct, and its Charter forfeited.

SEC. 3. Upon the demise of a Chapter, or the forfeiture of its Charter, the last Secretary and Treasurer shall, within six months thereafter, transmit or surrender to the Grand Secretary, or to some other Companion who shall be appointed by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest to receive them, the Charter, Seal, Books, Papers, Jewels, Furniture, and Funds of said Chapter.

SEC. 4. Each Chapter shall elect its officers annually by ballot.

SEC. 5. No Chapter can, at an extra Convocation, alter or expunge any part of the proceedings of a stated one.

SEC. 6. Every Master Mason who is desirous of progressing to the higher degrees, must petition some regular Chapter for advancement, which petition shall be referred to a committee, and lie over to the next stated Convocation before balloting, and if elected and exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Mason, he thereby becomes a member of the Chapter, and as such, shall be returned to the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 7. No Chapter shall confer any degree on a Brother, who has been advanced in another Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, without first obtaining, if practicable, the permission of said Chapter, and a certificate that he has complied with all its requirements.

SEC. 8. No Chapter shall confer the various degrees thereof for a less sum than thirty dollars; one-half of the fee charged shall accompany the petition, and the remainder shall be paid before the candidate receives the Most Excellent Master's degree.

SEC. 9. No Chapter shall advance a Brother without the unanimous consent of the members present; and no petition for advancement, when once before the Chapter, can be withdrawn, but must be acted on within three months after its presentation, except in case of the petitioner's death.

SEC. 10. No Chapter shall advance any candidate who has been rejected, within six months after such rejection; and the Secretary of every Chapter in which a rejection, suspension, expulsion, or re-instatement shall take place, shall forthwith inform the Grand Secretary and all the Subordinate Chapters thereof.

SEC. 11. No Chapter shall advance any candidate who may apply for that purpose, when there is a Chapter under this jurisdiction held nearer to his residence than the one to which he applies, without permission of such last mentioned Chapter, except such persons as come under the denomination of seamen, or where two or more Chapters are held in the same town or place, in which case he may apply to either.

SEC. 12. No Chapter shall confer the Capitular degrees on any candidate regularly rejected by any other Chapter, without first procuring the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided that such Chapter be in existence.

SEC. 13. No Chapter shall elect its installed officers in any other manner than by ballot; nor shall it decide on any petition for advancement or membership, in any other way than by ballot.

SEC. 14. No Chapter shall change its place of Convocation from one village, town, or county to another, without having first obtained permission from the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 15. Committees for the purpose of inquiring into the qualifications and character of petitioners for advancement, shall always consist of three Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 16. No Chapter shall admit to membership any Companion, who shall, at the time, be a member of any other Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

SEC. 17. Each new Chapter shall transmit a copy of its By-Laws to the Grand Chapter, or in its recess to the Grand High Priest, for examination, to see that they contain nothing contrary to the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, to that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, or the Ancient Rules and Regulations of the Order; and each Chapter shall, in like manner transmit a copy of every alteration or amendment of its By-Laws as soon as any such shall be made, for approval before the same can be of effect.

SEC. 18. No Chapter shall elect for its High Priest, any other than a King, Past King, Scribe, Past Scribe, or Past High Priest, unless by Dispensation from the Grand High Priest.

ARTICLE XIII.

No amendment, alteration or addition to this Constitution shall be made, unless proposed in writing at one stated Convocation, be printed among the minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and at the next succeeding Convocation be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter.

APPENDIX.

Report on Foreign Correspondence.

*To the M.: E.: Grand Royal Arch Chapter
of the State of Maryland:*

Your Committee on Correspondence, respectfully submit the following report, being the third review prepared by the present Committee:

The proceedings of the following Grand Chapters, have been received:

Alabama, . . . Dec, 1877	Mississippi, . . . Feb. 1878
Arkansas, . . . Oct. 1877	Minnesota, . . . Oct. 1878
California, . . . April 1878	New Hampshire, . . May 1877-8
Canada, . . . Aug. 1877-8	New Jersey, . . . Sept. 1878
Connecticut, . . May 1878	New York, . . . Feb. 1878
Colorado, . . . Sept. 1877	Nevada, . . . June 1878
Delaware, . . . Jan. 1878	Nebraska, . . . Dec. 1877
Dist. of Columbia . Dec. 1877	North Carolina, . . June 1878
Florida, . . . Jan. 1878	Oregon, . . . June 1878
Georgia, . . . April 1878	Pennsylvania, . . Dec. 1877
Illinois, . . . Oct. 1877	Quebec, . . . Sept. 1877
Indiana, . . . Oct. 1887	Rhode Island, . . March 1878
Iowa, . . . Oct. 1877	South Carolina, . . Feb. 1878
Kansas, . . . Oct. 1877	Texas, . . . Dec. 1877
Kentucky, . . . Oct. 1877	Tennessee, . . . Nov. 1877
Louisiana, . . . Feb. 1878	Virginia, . . . Dec. 1877
Maine, . . . May 1878	Wisconsin, . . . Feb. 1878
Massachusetts, . . Dec. 1877	Vermont, . . . Sept. 1877-8
Michigan, . . . Jan. 1878	Grand Lodge of Mark Master
Missouri, . . . Oct. 1878	Masons of England and Wales.

ALABAMA, 1877.

The Fifty-first Annual Convocation held at the City of Montgomery, December 4th. M.: E.: Comp. JAMES E. COBB, Grand High Priest; 29 Chapters represented.

We copy the following from the Annual address of the Grand High Priest:

"The circumstances which surrounds us to-day are in favorable contrast with those of our last Annual Convocation, and afford us cause for congratulation, encouragement, and gratitude. Threatening clouds obscured the dawn of the Masonic year just past—the beams of its setting sun gave unwonted brightness to our sky. To the fears which erewhile possessed every heart, have succeeded confidence and the assurance of hope. We have waited for the better days, as those who "watch for the morning," and now do we not see, full orb'd above our horizon, the morning's herald? If, indeed, our long night is overpast, happy are we if, through its dark watches, our characters have been purified and strengthened. An expression of trust in God, and the recognition of his guiding-hand in the affairs of life, is demanded of those who would know the mysteries of Masonry. Nor is this expression and recognition the requirement of an idle and unmeaning ceremony. To receive the degrees of the *Order* with intelligent appreciation of the lessons taught, is to stand at last within the veils of our sanctuary with that steadfast faith which purifies motive, and directs and controls action."

The G.: H.: Priest announces the deaths of Comp. WM. E. BAIRD, P.: H.: P.:, and Comp. J. McCALEB WILEY, P.: D.: G.: H.: Priest. In the report of the Committee on the death of the latter, the following interesting incident in the life of that Companion is narrated:

"In 1836, during the Texas revolution, on one occasion while on dress parade, Col. Wiley was ordered by Gen. Santa Anna to march his regiment to Fort Alamo, Texas. Instead of obeying the order, he deliberately removed the epaulettes from his shoulders and said: 'I refuse to fight my countrymen.' For this act of open insubordination he was immediately ordered under arrest, tried by court martial, and sentenced to be shot. But being a prominent Freemason, the influence of his brethern secured for him a temporary reprieve. He was transferred from prison to prison, until the battle of San Jacinto was fought on 21st April, 1836, when he was released and restored to his command. But he soon retired from the service, and returned to the United States, locating in Butler county, and began the practice of the law. In 1839 he removed to Clayton, Barbour county, and lived there until 1850, when he removed to Troy, Pike county, where he resided continuously until the time of his death."

Recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Several Chapters who had forfeited their Charters were re-instated, others were granted further time in which to pay up.

Comp. P. J. PILLANS again presented the Report on Correspondence, and in which he reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, Maryland for 1876 among the number.

On the subject of non-payment of dues, he has the the following under review of Canada :

"We fully agree with him, Comp. ROBERTSON, when he says: 'We do not believe in inflicting any punishment without giving the accused a fair trial.' This in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues. And in another place: 'We do not believe in placing non-payment of dues (which may be entirely involuntary on the part of the offender) on a par, as far as punishment is concerned, with unmasonic conduct.'"

And under Connecticut, on the same subject :

"This question of suspension for non-payment of dues has agitated our Companions very much. The hardship of being wholly deprived of all Masonic recognition without a hearing, and most probable on account of poverty, is becoming apparent."

We concur in the above views of Comp. PILLANS, and also with those heretofore expressed by him on the same subject, believing that any further punishment than that of deprivation of Lodge or Chapter privileges, for non-payment of dues, is decidedly wrong and in violation of the cardinal principles of the fraternity. We are pleased to see that he is sound also, on the "Visitors voting question;" under Georgia, on that subject, he has the following :

"We regret that we have not space to reproduce all he, (Comp. LAWRENCE), says in arguing with Comp. WIGGINS of California, on the propriety of allowing any brother present to vote on the application of one for the degrees; thinks that the Texas rule allowing this, to be a good one. We most decidedly agree with him that upon the application of a profane for Masonic light every brother present should be allowed to cast a ballot, for is not every brother equally interested as to the material to be introduced into the Temple."

On the so-called "Colored question," he has the following sensible views. We give them in full, as we regret to say more than one Grand High Priest, as well as Reporter on Correspondence, have, to our mind at least, an entirely wrong conception of this whole subject :

"In reading this address we were forcibly reminded that there is 'in every house a skeleton in the closet'—for the M. Ex. G. H. Priest, while dealing in a most methodical and business-like manner with all else that required attention, lets his reason sleep while his feelings, wishes and imagination run riot on the subject of negro, or, as he calls them, 'colored,' masons. He announces to his Grand Chapter that 'quite recently a Chapter of colored Royal Arch Masons has been organized within this Grand Jurisdiction,' and instead of denouncing this invasion of his jurisdiction, and declaring any such body, not authorized by the Grand Chapter of Iowa, to be clandestine, and thus maintaining and asserting the dignity of his Grand Chapter, he drivels about its being 'almost criminal to delay much longer the recognition,' &c., and urges though 'trusting that it will speedily lead to such conclusions and the adoption of such a line of action as shall render justice to those who are now the subjects of an unjust and indefensible rule.'

"Now suppose the M. Ex. had announced that a chapter of white Royal Arch Masons had been formed and opened in Iowa by warrant from any

other than the Grand Chapter of Iowa, would there have been any such recommendations? Why, if a chapter in an adjoining jurisdiction accidentally makes one a Royal Arch Mason who lives within the jurisdiction of Iowa, what a hubbub immediately ensues!—what correspondence and demands for apology! &c. And yet the M. Ex. G. H. Priest announces that a Chapter exists without proper authority, consequently not merely irregular, but clandestine, and he forsooth recommends recognition and companionship.

“The committee on G. H. Priest’s address, in noticing this portion, are so exuberant in the expression of philanthropic sentiment, that they think it were better to ‘tear down the pillars of strength and establishment, and blot out the celestial and terrestrial bodies,’ &c., than not to greet these negroes who *assert* that they are Royal Arch Masons and that they have a chapter. We give their report in full on this subject.”

He then quotes the report in full and continues:

“The M. Ex. very properly calls this the ‘coming question, but it will only be so, if Masons reject all the principles governing like cases, and are determined to let prejudice rule. Is the negro better than the white? Shall the latter be required to show his credentials when he makes application, while the former is allowed, nay invited, to enter upon his own statement merely?”

“We have heretofore been silent on this subject, because we thought that the sober second thought, that which comes of reflection, would free us of any such necessity, but the closing year of the centennial existence of this republic seems to have inspired many brethren with new ardor, yea greater admiration for this people. Let them, Companions, become R. A. Masons in the regular way, as we require those of all other colors, and there will be no necessity for violating any of the long settled principles of Masonry, nor of enunciating any such monstrous Masonic heresy as that there can, because of a ‘new day’ be a ‘new duty.’”

Under review of Maryland for 1876, he says:

“The Address of G. H. P. EMMONS is a short, well-written, business-like paper, and, in conclusion, he declines re-election, and recommends that the Grand Chapter begin then to adopt a rule of action which shall prevent re-elections. He hints at his reasons only, but every Mason can readily imagine them.”

He quotes our views in full on powers of bodies U. D., under review of Maine, and which he says “seems to us sound.”

On the forced membership question, under Nevada, he says:

“The Grand Chapter is making an effort to force membership of the non-affiliated, and will succeed as badly as all others who have run counter to the principle, that as one becomes a Mason of his own free will, so also ought he to be allowed to sever his connection of his own free will.”

And to which we also subscribe, and indeed in looking carefully over the entire report of Comp. PILLAXS, we find we are in accord with every opinion given by him in his report, except his endorsement of the following decision of the Grand High Priest of Kansas:

“When the High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter convenes his Chapter in Special Convocations, it is not necessary that he state the purpose for which it is so convened, and it will be proper for him to do any work that

may be done, which is not in violation of existing By-Laws, or Standing Resolutions."

We think if Comp. PILLANS would reflect a moment, and call to mind the injustice that might be inflicted upon an absent Companion, by the introduction of matters other than those for which the special meeting was called, he will surely reconsider his endorsement of that decision.

JAMES E. COBB, re-elected G. H. P.; DANIEL SAYRE, re-elected G. Secretary; PALMER J. PILLANS, Chairman Com. Correspondence.

ARKANSAS, 1877.

The Twenty-eight Annual Convocation held at Little Rock, October 4th. M. E. Comp. JOHN W. RISON, Deputy G. H. Priest presiding; sixteen Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest "was detained at home in attendance as a physician upon the sick and suffering," as stated by the Deputy, who read the Annual Address of the G. H. Priest, and from which we quote the following extracts:

"In reviewing this Masonic year, what hear we from the Sentinels upon the watchtowers? See they nothing of an approaching enemy? Hear they not the tramp, tramp of martial hosts? See they not the glistening steel of an advancing foe? Hear they not signal guns of the coming battle? Is there nothing of storm, of woe, or danger dire? Comes there along the lines, over hill and dale, from mountain heights, by river, lake, and rivulet the gladsome news 'All's well?'

"In pride, with gratitude, we have heard from the veteran workers of the North, the South, the East, the West, these words of cheer: The night has passed away, the sun has risen, and the clouds have drifted afar; gloom has ended in sunlight. The Royal Craft are reanimated; their banners are raised aloft, and never again will they droop, or their zealous defenders grow cold or indifferent to *friendship, union, fervency and purity*.

"United, disciplined, and martialled like the tribes of Israel, under the leadership of the Great Law-Giver, in moral warfare they expect to put to flight all who oppose. An outlook so much more promising for Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction than when the year began, is a just cause for congratulation, not alone to ourselves, but likewise to many in sister States, as I can safely aver from personal intercourse with such, recently, in the City of Buffalo, N. Y.

"To insure continued prosperity, we must not allow ourselves, and those committed to our charge, to dreamily float down the stream of time, unmindful alike of the Order's past glories, its present triumphs, and its future greatness and grandeur. The labors of the faithful and zealous craftsmen, who have wrought so long amid trials and tribulations, will be for naught, if now, instead of continued work, inaction and inattention are to be substituted for it.

"By day and by night, the interest of the Chapter, without neglecting weightier, better, and holier matters, should be the subject of thoughtful consideration. Mindful that God, in His wondrous and merciful revelations of His will and pleasure, has set the seal of His disapprobation upon the

slothful, the thoughtful Companion will not fail in duty by want of zealous labor in behalf of organized Masonry."

The fire-fiend has again visited us, and laid in ashes many valuable monuments of the past history of this Grand Chapter; many cherished souvenirs have been consumed. The Grand Secretary's office, with all its contents, embracing the proceedings of past years of our own and other Grand Chapters, the valuable Library, Records, and other manuscripts that had been filed away in the Archives, was destroyed. The frequent visitations of this element of destruction naturally suggest the inquiry whether some plan cannot be adopted whereby immunity, in part at least, may be attained from a recurrence of such disasters."

We believe this is the second time that this Grand Chapter lost valuable records by fire within the past few years.

One dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter.

Five Chapters forfeited charters. The Grand High Priest announced the death of P.: G.: H.: Priest, Comp. E. H. WHITEFIELD.

He gives a pleasing account of the reception of the General Grand Chapter by the Companions of Buffalo.

A committee was appointed to act in conjunction with a like committee from the Grand Council, to take into consideration the propriety of transferring the Cryptic degrees to the Chapters.

The work in the M. M. degree was exemplified, and the lectures and explanations of the Past Masters, M. E. Masters, and Royal Arch degrees were given by the M.: E.: Comp. E. H. ENGLISH, P.: G.: G.: H.: Priest.

Quite a brief and somewhat an unusual Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. JOHN R. EAKIN. He gives his views upon several matters of interest, but does not give a review of the proceedings of any one Grand Chapter. He presents however, a brief synopsis of the action of the various jurisdictions on the subject of the transfer of the Council degrees, and personally favors the transfer.

JONATHAN W. JORDAN, G.: H.: Priest; L. E. BARBER, re-elected G.: Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1878.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation held at San Francisco, April, 9th. M.: E.: Comp. HENRY HAY KNAPP, G.: H.: Priest. 39 Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is rather brief. He says:

"Scarcely Twenty-four years have elapsed since the representatives of the three chartered Chapters then existing on the Pacific Coast assembled in

this city, and, with the consent and under the authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, formed the Grand Chapter of California. And as evidence that the foundation of the mystic temple then laid was well done, we have only to point to the uninterrupted prosperity of the Craft during that period, and to the forty-nine chartered Chapters now borne upon our roll, containing a membership of nearly three thousand Royal Arch Masons."

He decided that

"An objection before the applicant has received the first, or Mark degree, has the effect of a black ball, and cannot be questioned; but if one or more degrees have been conferred before the objection is interposed, it then becomes the subject of investigation."

We contend that an objection should stay proceedings at any stage.

A dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter.

From the report of the Grand Treasurer we find he has nearly \$4000 in hand, and that the Grand Chapter holds \$9000 stock in the Masonic Hall Association, on which dividends of 10 per cent. have been received,—(rather a better paying stock than ours.)

The finances being in such a healthy condition, the dues were reduced from one dollar to fifty cents per annum.

The committee on the subject of the transfer of the Cryptic degrees, recommended that action be deferred until the next Triennial session of the General Grand Chapter. As we stated in our last report, we believe it is perfectly competent for each State jurisdiction to take such action in the premises as may be mutually agreed upon by the Grand Council and the Grand Chapter thereof.

The transactions of this Grand Chapter were conducted in a thorough business-like manner.

The Report on Correspondence was again presented by Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, who reviews in his usual able manner the proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, including the General Grand Chapter, and also the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales.

Upon the subject of Council degrees, under Arkansas, he says:

"So far as California is concerned, we fear that, unless the junction is effected, Cryptic Masonry in this State will die of inanition. We sincerely hope that, before another triennial Conclave of the General Grand Chapter is held, a sufficient number of the advocates of this measure will so forcibly express their views as to induce the General Grand Chapter to take favorable action in the premises."

He still maintains that it is competent for any Chapter to enact a By-law disfranchising a member who may be in arrears for dues. Well "Eph-

riam is joined to his idols, (and I suppose we must) let him alone." We are pleased to see, however, that he is sound on the "colored" question.

Under review of Maryland, he says:

"The Grand High Priest, as is the case, alas! too often, commences his address by announcing the death of a beloved companion, in this case the Grand Treasurer, Comp. FREDERICK WOODWORTH, who, after many years of active service in the Chapter, carried up his work for inspection by the Great Overseer, on the third day of March, 1877."

He gives a synopsis of the address of G. L. Priest ACNEY, commending his enforcement of the resolution regarding examination in the preceding degrees.

Of us personally, he says:

"Another first-rate Report on Correspondence greets us from the pen of Comp. EDWARD T. SCHULTZ, covering one hundred and sixty-five pages of the Annual. Long as it is, it is at no point lacking in interest, and we have perused it from *Alpha* to *Omega*. We commenced it with our *post prandial* cigar, and now, as the hands of our chronometer point to 3:30 A. M., and the melodious voice of the Shanghai in our back yard admonishes as of approaching dawn, and the necessity of brief repose before commencing the active labors of the day, we have arrived at 'conclusion,' and, with a sigh of regret that there is no more, we place ourselves between the sheets to dream of Masonic heresies, ancient landmarks, ditto regulations, etc."

All of which is most gratifying, for after the hope expressed by us in our last report that the landmarks should be "showered upon his devoted head, for his many *heresies*," we felt somewhat nervous until we had received and read his report.

Quoting our remarks relative to "previous service," he says:

"We do not propose to spend much time in arguing this matter, as we cannot name at present, with positive certainty, any other jurisdiction where so 'flagrant an innovation is allowed;' but we will call upon our brother reporters throughout the land to speak for their respective jurisdictions, and let us see in how many it is now allowable to elect a Master from the floor of the Lodge.

"Comp. SCHULTZ says he should be sorry to believe that 'many of the ancient regulations are not now in force,' yet it is only necessary for us to refer him to the ancient regulations, as laid down by Dr. ANDERSON in his 'Constitutions, History, Charges, Regulations, &c.'—a copy of which, in all its quaint old type and phraseology, is now before us—to convince him that not many of these regulations are now in force in this or any other jurisdiction. The 'Ancient Landmarks of Masonry,' as defined by MACKAY to be the '*universal language*,' and the '*universal laws* of Masonry,' by which we are enabled to designate our inheritance as the sons of light, it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to change; but the 'local ceremonies, laws, and usages, which vary in different countries,' are subject to the provisions and regulations of the various Grand Bodies having jurisdiction over them."

We admit that, by the elimination of the operative feature from Masonry, some of the old regulations and ancient charges, became obsolete,

or were modified to suit the change thus made; but we hold that only in so far as they were affected by the change to a purely speculative institution, can the ancient charges that "were to be read at the making of new brethren" be abrogated or set aside, they are a part of the "*universal laws of Masonry*," which, as quoted from MACKAY, "It is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to change."

Now what is the language of one of those charges, (the 4th?) "*No brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellow-Craft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden, nor a Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge, nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellow-Craft before his election.*"

Comp. CORNELIUS MOORE, commenting on this very charge, says, "No constitutional regulation of a Grand Lodge can set aside this fundamental rule."

And until we read the report of Comp. WIGGINS we did not know that any one questioned the binding force of this regulation, hence the astonishment expressed by us upon learning that the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of California did not so regard it.

Commenting on the views expressed by us relative to the powers of bodies U. D., "and that few intelligent Masons can approve *all* the laws and regulations on the statute books of the two General Grand Bodies of this country," he says:

"We submit that this is rather a diminutive hole to crawl out of. Does Comp. SCHULTZ have the hardihood to place his individual opinion against the concentrated wisdom of the General Grand Chapter? This would be rank *heresy*, and if we could lay hold of an ancient landmark, we would shower it upon his devoted head.

"When it was decided by a General Grand High Priest, some six years since, that a Chapter under dispensation, had no power to discipline an unworthy member, we did not dispute the legality of the decision, but we attacked the theory with such force of argument as we were capable of, and the question was taken up by other reporters, and the discussion thus evoked has had the good effect to remove one absurd regulation from the statute book of the General Grand Chapter."

We claim to be second to none in our loyalty to *all* the laws and edicts that have been, or may be enacted by the governing bodies over us, so long as they remain on the statue books, but we will say to Comp. WIGGIN, that we *have the hardihood* to do exactly what he says he *did*, in the case referred to, "Attack the theory with such force of argument, as we were capable of" any regulation that we believe in violation of the Landmarks or Ancient Charges.

He still contends that the degrees of virtual and actual Past Master are entirely distinct, and should remain so. Well, they may be so in his jurisdiction, but we fail to see any difference as they are conferred in ours.

He agrees with us that in the absence of the three principal officers, the Chapter cannot be opened.

We dissent in toto from the following under his review of Quebec :

“We hold that a companion, suspended for non-payment of dues, *is* liable for them during the time of his suspension.”

In concluding, he says :

“Most of it has been written during hours when ‘pain and sickness wrung the brow :’ and, although ‘ministering angels’ were not wanting, they could not aid in elucidating questions of Masonic law and usage, or in doing battle with those doughty knights of the quill, CORSON, LAWRENCE, SCHULTZ, PRERSON, and others, whose ‘heresies’ we felt bound to combat ; and to cope with whom required all the vigor of an intellect, unimpaired by disease.”

We very much regret to notice his retirement from the *Corps*, for as we remarked last year, he is a very pleasing as well as an able writer ; albeit, he has so many modern notions on the subject of Masonry.

Comp. JOHN MILLS BROWN, Grand High Priest, THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Grand Secretary and Chairman on Correspondence.

CANADA, 1877.

The Twentieth Annual Convocation, held in the city of London, August, 8th. M.: E.: Comp. L. H. HENDERSON, Grand Z.:

An Emergency Convocation was held in the City of Toronto, Feb. 2, 1877, for the purpose, as stated by the Grand Z.:—

“That he had called this Emergency Convocation at the request of a number of companions, who desired that some immediate proceeding should be taken, in consequence of the Quebec Chapters having met in Convention, on the 12th December, 1876, and organized a Grand Chapter for that province.”

After the reading of the documents and correspondence in relation thereto, it was resolved,—

“That the Grand Chapter of Canada hereby cordially and fraternally extends recognition to the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and welcomes her as a sister among the Grand Chapters of the World.”

We give the following extracts from the annual address of the Grand Z.:

“While Masonry has been marching onward, clear as the sun, fair as the moon, smoothing discords, healing differences, uniting opposing forces,

and like a messenger of peace, spreading harmony and prosperity everywhere; it has been playing no unimportant part in the 'great drama of life.'

"What strides our beloved land has made, socially, morally and politically, during the years that have passed away. Twenty years ago, this, the first Grand Chapter in British North America, was struggling feebly into life, with but three Subordinate Chapters; a weak membership, and an insignificant revenue. To-day we number *seventy* Subordinate Chapters on our roll, (after omitting those who have withdrawn to form the Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia and Quebec,) a large and increasing membership, and a respectable revenue. In addition to this, prosperous Grand Chapters exist in the provinces of Nova Scotia and Quebec.

Twenty years ago, Canada comprised the present provinces of Quebec and Ontario, but by the act of Confederation, our wide Dominion of to-day spreads from sea to sea—a vast and almost boundless continent, peopled by prosperous and united races and possessing one of the best forms of government in the world. Whilst we are thus prosperous and happy, other countries are convulsed to their centres by revolutions and reforms, but we have peace within our gates, and prosperity within our borders."

The District Grand Superintendents made their usual reports, from which we learn, "peace, and a due amount of prosperity, prevails." Warrants were granted to four new Chapters.

Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, presented a very able Report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters. We regret to say, Maryland is again omitted. Our jurisdiction has received no notice since 1875. Why are we thus passed by in silence, Comp. ROBERTSON?

Noticing a rule of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, requiring a majority vote to restore to membership one suspended for non-payment of dues; he very sensibly says:

"Why a majority vote should be required we are at a loss to imagine. It looks as if they wanted to take advantage of the pecuniary necessities of a Companion to keep him out of the Chapter. If there is nothing else against him but the non-payment of dues, he should be re-admitted at once on paying up. If there is any thing else against him, the more manly and straight-forward course would be to prefer charges against him. With us the payment of the arrears, *ipso facto*, restores the Companion to good standing without any vote of the Chapter. We object, decidedly, to the idea that non-payment of dues is a Masonic *crime*, and it should not be treated with the same severity as unmasonic conduct."

Under New York, we find the following in regard to Past rank:

"In Masonry it is the length of the time of service that constitutes past rank. Unless a full term is completed, the privileges of past rank are not attainable. Otherwise, and according to Companion Ogden's 'sound logic,' if carried to its legitimate conclusion, the service of one month, or even of a single day, will be just as efficacious as service for the full year. In ordinary societies and corporations this matter is of little importance, as no peculiar privileges are enjoyed by their past officers. An ex-president or an ex-mayor has nothing but his *prestige*. But in Masonry there are certain peculiar and very important rights pertaining to past rank, and these are

only conferred, and should only be conferred for actual service in the particular office for the full term."

Since the above was written we have received the proceedings for

1878.

The Twenty-first Annual Convocation was held at the City of Hamilton, August 14th; M. E. Comp. FRED. J. MENET, Grand Z.:

The transactions were altogether of a local character.

Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, again presented the Report on Correspondence, and in which he reviews the proceedings of forty Grand Chapters.

He gives Maryland for 1877, a brief but kindly notice.

He quotes our comments in regard to visitors voting, under review of Canada for 1876; upon which he comments as follows:

"It is possible that a visitor might know a candidate better than any member, but such cases will be rare exceptions to the general state of things. The evils that would ensue from allowing visitors to vote, would, in our opinion, far more than outweigh any occasional cases where such a practice might prove a benefit."

We think the *evils* to be feared by allowing visitors to vote on application for the degrees are altogether imaginary.

Still reviewing our report, he says:

"He also asks, if we would still favor the re-conferring of the Past Master's degree, supposing there was no difference between 'actual' and 'virtual' Past Masters. We answer 'yes' for reasons that we can hardly publish here.

Comp. Schultz, is on the right side in agreeing that suspension for non-payment of dues by the Lodge does not affect the Companion's membership in the Chapter. He is also with us on other points (as under), about which we have had some arguments before."

He then quotes our remarks on the last mentioned subject.

Under Massachusetts, reviewing the report of Comp. DADMUX, he has the following:

"On the same subject, (objection after ballot), he answers Companion Schultz, of Maryland, in the most complete and convincing manner. We predict that Comp. Schultz will be the next convert. We greet him as such in advance."

We propose to answer Comp. DADMUX on this subject, under review of Massachusetts and to which we refer Comp. ROBERTSON, merely remarking that we have as yet seen nothing that causes us to waver in our opinion on that subject.

We are in full accord with the following, under review of Michigan :

"We object to placing the non-payment of dues in the category of Masonic crimes. It is no crime to be poor, although it is very uncomfortable. And yet, because a Companion is too poor to pay dues, you punish him the same as if he was guilty of the greatest crimes. And worse than all, you will not allow his own Chapter, who know all the circumstances and all the reasons for his non-payment, to say what shall be his punishment. If ever poverty comes to be our lot, we hope the force of circumstances will not compel us to live in Michigan.

We do not allow expulsions for non-payment of dues. We suspend from membership, and the delinquent can restore himself at any time, by paying up his arrears. No vote of the Chapter, or ballot or any other action is necessary or requisite. The moment the arrears are paid up, the restoration takes place by that act, and the former standing is regained. So that the door for return is always open, when the ability or the desire to again contribute to the funds is re-established."

FRED. J. MENET re-elected Grand Z. : DANIEL McLELLAN, Grand Scribe E. : (Sec'y.)

COLORADO, 1877.

The Third Annual Convocation held in Denver City, September 20th. Comp. IRVING W. STANTON, G. : H. : P. : All the Chapter (7) represented.

The Annual address of the Grand High Priest is brief, but contains a clear and concise report of his official doings for the year.

He has this to say of the General Grand Chapter :

"I am compelled to reverse my opinion of the usefulness of the General Grand Chapter. Heretofore I have considered it a somewhat useless appendage, and of but little practical benefit. Hereafter I shall not so regard it. From henceforth I am an advocate of the General Grand Chapter, and for several reasons, but one in particular, which would suffice if there were no other; that is the opportunity afforded once in three years for the Representatives of the State Grand Chapters to meet each other in friendly intercourse, and, as companions and brothers in the true sense of the words, interchange friendly greetings and opinions. Coming from all portions of our common country, learning to know and appreciate each other, recognizing true merit, from whatever point of the compass it may come, the influence exerted by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America for 'peace and harmony' and 'good will towards men' cannot, in my opinion, be overestimated."

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

Comp. BYERS verbally apologized for not presenting a Report on Correspondence and offered to prepare one to be published with the proceedings, but the Grand Chapter "Resolved to dispense with a Report this year."

Comp. OREN H. HENRY, G. : H. : P. : ED. C. PARMALEE, G. : Secretary. WM. N. BYERS, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence.

CONNECTICUT, 1878.

The Eightieth Annual Convocation held in the City of Hartford, May 7th. M.: E.: Comp. HENRY W. COYE, G.: H.: Priest; 33 Chapters represented.

We quote the following from the Address of the Grand High Priest:

"While we as Royal Arch Masons have been prosperous, the country at large has been, and still is suffering under the blight of business depression and financial adversity. In times like these, when confidence in those with whom we daily transact business is being destroyed, when men in high places betray the most sacred trusts, and moral and social disaster threatens our country, is there not a noble work for us as Masons to do?"

"An eminent Mason, M.: E.: Comp. ALBERT PIKE, in a recent address, said:

"Those who hold in trust the savings of the poor, rob them and live in luxury, and the mask of piety is worn by the speculator and the forger. Oaths are multiplied until they have become worthless. Votes and seats in high places are bought and sold, and wealth, ill-gained, is nobility. One half the world pays interest on which the other half lives without labor, and the poor in their kennels curse the rich in the palaces. Mobs burn the property of great swollen corporations and are dispersed by the bayonets and bullets of a regular sodiery. When the wages of the handicraftsman are five dollars a week, the lawyer limits his fees by thousands; and ministers of religion preaching in hush, costly temples their commentaries upon the words of Him whose apostles were poor fishermen of Galilee, receive for a yearly stipend more dollars than the citizen whose labor supports a family will receive for his wages in fifty years of hard work. When greed sends to sea, on a long voyage, a rotten ship loaded with laborers, and storms drive it upon the shores of the Atlantic, the world hardly holds its breath a moment, and after a day or two few seem to care whether the criminals who caused the catastrophe are brought to justice or continue to be respectable. Who will say, then, that Masonry has not a mission and an apostolate? For it is brotherhood, and brotherhood is that which the world needs. The poor sick heart of the world craves it, is starving and dying for the want of it."

"Surely troublous times have fallen upon us. Let us, my Companions, earnestly strive to do all in our power to forward the glorious mission of Masonry, that the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth may prevail, and that we may have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our duty, and endeavored to transmit the teachings of our Royal Art, 'pure and unimpaired,' to our successors. Let us remember that if we have any doubts of the extent of our obligations, a frequent recourse to the Scriptures of Divine Truth will set us right, make our duties plain, and the discharge of them a pleasure and not a burden. And above all, let us not forget the lesson that 'when the strength and wisdom of man fails, there is an inexhaustible supply above,' which we believe will be granted to us through the power of prayer."

The transactions are devoid of interest to outsiders.

Comp. JOHN H. BARLOW presents the Report on Correspondence, "a first attempt," brief, but it is a very creditable one; he reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, together with the General Grand Chapter.

He thinks, and very correctly, that the same penalty for non-payment of dues should not be inflicted, as in a case of violation of the moral law, and that suspension for non-payment of dues, only effects Lodge or Chapter membership.

Maryland receives a fraternal notice. He quotes several extracts from G.: H.: Priest ACNEY's address. He favors our resolution that no High Priest shall be installed who is not competent to confer the traditional work.

He appears not to favor the action of Mississippi on the Council degrees.

Comp. DWIGHT WAUGH, G.: H.: P.: J. K. WHEELER, G.: Secretary.
JOHN H. BARLOW, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

DELAWARE, 1878.

The tenth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Wilmington, January 16th. 6 Chapters represented.

R.: E.: Comp. PAYNTER FRAME, Deputy G.: H.: Priest, presided, and read the annual address of the G.: H.: Priest, M.: E.: Comp. J. F. MYNICH, who was absent by reason of sickness.

The following decision is reported:

"That the only way that a summons could be answered was by actual attendance to the Convocation to which the Companion had been summoned, that while the Companion might ask the High Priest or the Chapter to excuse him, actual presence in the body of the Chapter is the only way whereby a summons can be answered and obeyed."

From which we respectfully dissent. Should a Companion, by reason of sickness, or any other satisfactory cause, be unable to attend a meeting of the Chapter, send a written notice to that effect, we hold it is an answer to *that* summons.

We quote the following extract from the address of the G.: H.: Priest. After speaking of the *good time* had at Buffalo, on the occasion of the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, he says:

"Companions, there is a new Constitution that will be acted upon at the next Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, provided they have time between banquets, excursions, &c., which if passed, will be but a stepping stone to the absolute power now desired by the General Grand Chapter. In view of this fact, and that Grand Chapters, Subordinate to this General Grand Chapter, are Grand Chapters now only in name, I charge you to exercise the utmost vigilance. There is but one possible good that can come out of this General Grand Chapter, and that is, so long as it exists, there is not the remotest possibility of the Masons of this country being cursed with a General Grand Lodge."

We have been privileged to attend four sessions of the General Grand Chapter, and can say that at no one of them did we notice any disposition to assume "*absolute power.*" On the contrary, we regret to say, that Grand body failed to assume such powers as of right belong to it. By the adoption of the proposed New Constitution, a portion of the powers inherent in it, which was relinquished, (owing perhaps in a great measure to the peculiar state of excitement prevailing in the country at the time), will be reassumed.

This jurisdiction has ever been loyal to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter and has even been disposed to obey *all* its edicts, notwithstanding, by the action referred to, (in 1859), it divested itself of some of its powers, much to the mortification and regret of the then membership of this Grand Chapter.

If the General Grand Chapter is not to be the governing body of Royal Arch Masonry in this country, of what possible use is it? Why should the several State Grand Chapters, at an expense of time and money, send delegates to it, if its acts are to be binding in so far *only* as each jurisdiction, acting for itself, may see proper to approve? If it can have *no* supreme or binding powers, then we, for one should favor its dissolution, and at the earliest possible moment.

As its membership is composed of delegates fresh from the State Grand Chapters, and permanent members, most of whom have grown gray in the service of Royal Arch Masonry, and all of whom naturally have a due regard for the welfare of their respective jurisdictions, we think there is but little cause for the *fear* that it could ever assume dangerous powers. The interests of Royal Arch Masonry, we feel well assured, are perfectly safe in the hands of such Companions.

There is no Report on Correspondence, but we notice that our friend and Companion J. THOS. BUDD, has been appointed the Chairman of that Committee, and from what we know personally of his zeal and activity, we shall have a report from this jurisdiction next year.

A. G. COX, G. H. P. J. P. ALLMOND, G. Secretary. J. THOMAS BUDD, Chairman Committee Correspondence.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1877.

The Semi-Annual Convocation was held in the City of Washington, June 13th, and the Annual, December 12th. M. E. Comp. ISAAC L. JONSSON, G. H. Priest; eight Chapters represented.

A rule was adopted by the Grand Chapter "not to appoint or receive any Companion as a Grand Representative who has not attained the rank of High Priest, or is a member of his respective Grand Chapter."

A Chapter of Sorrow was held June 29th, in memory of Past Grand H.: Priest, Comp. J. E. F. HOLMEAD.

In his annual address the G.: H.: Priest says:

"It gives me pleasure to report that, for the past year, the Companions of the Constituent Chapters have exhibited a zeal for our institution that is commendable in the highest degree, and as a result, prosperity has crowned their labors. The officers selected to superintend the work and preside over the deliberations of the several Chapters, have been faithful and efficient, and have justly merited the confidence and co-operation of their Companions."

He refers to the action of our Grand Chapter relative to the "Old Record Book." As this whole subject, including the correspondence, will be in the printed proceedings of the Special Session of our Grand Chapter, we will omit all reference to it.

Recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. NOBLE D. LARNER, and in which he reviews the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Chapters, Maryland for 1876 and 1877 among the number.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, of Arkansas, having reported that,

"There is nothing in the ancient charges or usages of this Order, or the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter, which requires that the High Priest of a Chapter should have previously filled any station, being in that respect different from the rule prevailing in Lodges under the ancient charges."

Comp. LARNER thus comments, and we think correctly:

"If this report contains the true doctrine, then we are compelled to admit that all the training we have received on this particular point has been wrong. We have been taught, that where there is no 'ancient charge, usage or constitutional provision or by-law on a particular point in Capitular Masonry, then the rule which prevails in the Lodge must prevail in the Chapter.' This, if we mistake not, is the ruling of the General Grand Chapter. Why adopt the rule in one body and not in the other? Does not the same reasons exist for it in the Chapter as in the Lodge? If not, why?"

And that is what we have repeatedly asked, "If not, why?"

Under Maryland for 1876, quoting G.: H.: P.: EMMONS remarks concerning the Council degrees, he says:

"We fully agree with Comp. EMMONS in his views on this subject. Our Grand Chapter took the same action in relation to these degrees soon after its formation, and such action has been with us as it had been with Maryland—'disastrous to the interests of Cryptic Masonry.' As the mover of the resolution in our Grand Chapter for a severance of the Cryptic degrees

from the Chapter, we are free to confess that it was one of the greatest mistakes of our Masonic life, and we earnestly hope that the day is not far distant when we will see our way clear to place these degrees where they formerly belonged."

There are but few in either his or our jurisdiction that will not now admit with him that the change made in 1872, in regard to those degrees, was a "mistake."

Quoting that portion of Comp. EMMONS address in reference to one term, he says:

"We do not object to a Companion declining to serve as Grand High Priest a second term, but we do most earnestly object to the 'one term' being established as a rule in our Grand Chapter."

He quotes our views in full on the powers of bodies U. D., under review of Maine with approval.

Noticing our opinion, "That for unmasonic conduct, notoriously known and believed, summary expulsion is justifiable," he says:

"What kind of an idea is this? Where did it come from? Where would such a course as this, if persisted in, lead us to? Is it not one of the most sacred rights that a Companion is possessed of to claim and have a trial on any and every charge that may be preferred against him by his Chapter? Divest him of his rights, and what will be the consequence? Who can foresee the trouble and discord that will arise among us? We do not think that Comp. S. is very firmly fixed in the position he assumes on this question, for he concludes his comments by saying:

"We believe, however, that should the Companion subsequently demand a regular trial, it must be accorded to him."

"If, after a Companion has been *irregularly* expelled, he can come forward and demand to be *regularly* expelled, where does the good come from by doing the work *irregularly* at first? When will the case be finally settled?"

Would Comp. LARNER insist that it is absolutely necessary to go through with all the forms of a trial, (it could only be a mere form), in the case of a Companion guilty of gross unmasonic conduct, known and believed by everybody, and who had absconded to parts unknown; or in the case of one who had been tried and convicted by the courts? Is it not better in such cases to summarily expel, and should the Companion afterwards demand a regular trial, which is very unlikely, give it to him? We have, at any rate, known more than one instance in which it has been done.

Under review of Maryland for 1877, noticing the death of Comp. WOODWORTH, he says:

"We were personally acquainted with Comp. WOODWORTH for many years in Masonry and business, and we must heartily endorse all that is said in relation to him by the Grand High Priest and Comp. GORGAS, who presented the eulogy."

Referring to the decision of Grand High Priest ACHEY,

"That a Subordinate Chapter of another jurisdiction should not hold official communication with a Subordinate Chapter of this jurisdiction upon a matter touching the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, except through the respective Grand High Priests."

He comments:

"As this is an entirely new doctrine to us, we would be glad to have it discussed to by our Maryland Companions, more especially from the fact that the Grand Chapter approved the ruling on the report of its committee, who failed to give reasons for so doing."

Whether this be an old or a new doctrine, we hold the decision to be a correct one; the invasion of one jurisdiction by another should be regulated by the official heads thereof.

Still reviewing our jurisdiction, he says:

"From the address of the Grand High Priest, as well as from the action taken by the Grand Chapter, we should judge that they are peculiarly happy over the event of being able to prove the exact date of the birth of the Grand Chapter. Our Companions of Maryland have been delving among the rubbish of the Temple for many years for this date, but have always failed in its accomplishment, until its *only child*, the District of Columbia, came to the rescue and completed the family record for her by producing a proper certificate of birth from one of her friends, who was invited to witness the *delivery* and take part in the same but refused. Well, Companions, we congratulate you on being able at last to let the Masonic world know exactly how old you are, and convince all, especially Comp. DRUMMOND, that you were right in the claim to 'old age' heretofore made. We hope Comp. McG. and the rest of the household are brim full of happiness, and that rest from their labors await them. We accept your thanks, and promise aid when you are in trouble again."

He desires to know our personal objection to "Chapters of Sorrow;" also, if we cannot give a better reason than the one assigned under review of Canada, for visitors voting. As we notice other writers have taken issue with us on these same questions, we will hereafter give our reason for the faith that is in us.

He says he agrees with us, that a Member of the Grand Council cannot open a Chapter and transact its regular business in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe, *except* "the member of the Grand Council should be the Grand High Priest," who he thinks has an "undisputed right" to do so. We believe that *even* he cannot legally or properly do so.

We are pleased to see we are in accord on the objection question. Under New Jersey he has the following on that subject:

"It is easy enough to say that the right of objection is of recent invention, but prove it. We had occasion several years since, when the question was under discussion in our Grand Lodge, to investigate it, and by that in-

vestigation we were convinced that just the reverse of what Comp. CORSON claims is the fact. We are convinced that this right has existed for many years back, and is among the oldest rights possessed by an individual member of the fraternity, and judging from the very few followers Comp. CORSON has in his opinion on this question, a very large majority of the Companions of the country agree with us that there exists no right to compel a Companion to reveal the reasons he may have for entering an objection. The right is a sacred one and must be respected."

Comp. JOS. S. MCCOY, G.: H.: P.: C. W. HANCOCK, G.: Secretary.
NOBLE D. LARNER, Correspondence.

FLORIDA, 1878.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held in the City of Jacksonville, January 8th. M.: E.: Comp. JOHN S. DRIGGS, G.: H.: Priest. - 6 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest announces the death of Comp. DAVID JONES, P.: G.: H.: P.:, and EDMUND P. JORDAN, Grand Sentinel. The transactions are altogether of local interest.

Companion S. PASCO, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, reported:

"That from want of time they have not been able to digest the proceedings of the different Grand Chapters that have been placed before them."

Comp. ENOS WASGATE, G.: H.: P.: DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA, 1878.

The fifty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Macon, April 24th. M.: E.: Comp. LUTHER J. GLENN, G.: H.: Priest. 35 Chapters represented.

We give the following extracts from the very able address of the Grand High Priest:

"On the whole, I may say, that Royal Arch Masonry in Georgia, the past year, has neither progressed nor receded, so far as numbers are concerned. It has, perhaps, held its own.

"Nor should this be a cause of lamentation. It is not the *quantity*, but the *quality* of the membership to which we should look, and which should excite our pride and admiration.

"Many drones and idlers, who have persistently failed to bring up work fit for inspection, have been cut off from the benefits, *and for the benefit* of Masonry, within the past few years, in this jurisdiction. Nor is this loss in members, in one respect, to be regretted. On the contrary, perhaps, it were better for the Institution that the pruning knife should continue to be applied, and the work of reform prosecuted, until none but living stones shall be found in the building.

"Better, far better, that ten craftsmen only, *be they good and true*, should be engaged in and about the temple, than that it should be filled to overflowing with the idle and unfaithful; as was the Ancient City of the Plains, from which Lot and his wife made their escape, in obedience to the Divine command."

He decided and properly "that a Master Mason who had lost a leg, being amputated below the knee, could not receive the Chapter Degrees." He also decided that rejection for affiliation by the Lodge "does not operate *per se*," to keep out of the Chapter, and in which we also concur.

He deeply regrets that the General Grand Chapter did not, at its recent session, take more definite action in reference to uniformity of Work, on which subject he ventilates his views very fully, concluding them as follows :

"But seriously, I do hope that the General Grand Chapter will, at its next Convocation, take time to ascertain and determine the true and correct work in each degree, and then exercise the courage to promulgate and require the same to be 'observed and preserved' in every jurisdiction over which it exercises authority."

Resolutions of regret and sympathy were passed for the absence, by sickness, of Comps. D. N. AUSTIN and R. L. RODDY, the latter, the Grand Secretary in a foot note informs us has since been called to "the undiscovered country from whose dread bourne no traveller returns."

A jewel was ordered for Companion GLENN, "for eminent services rendered the Grand Chapter," he having occupied the position of Grand High Priest for four years.

Comp. SAMUEL LAWRENCE again presented a very interesting report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters. Under review of our jurisdiction he gives a synopsis of the proceedings for 1877, congratulating us on our "increase in years." Speaking of our report, he says :

"Under Illinois, he puts this question, begging response from the 'corps:'

"Can a member of the Grand Council open a regular chartered Chapter for the transaction of the *regular* business, in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe?"

"There must be some error in the print. How 'can a member of the Grand Council open,' when there is no member of the Grand Council present? If Comp. SHULTZ means a member of the Grand Chapter, we agree with him. He cannot open for any business, regular or other.

"But where is Comp. SHULTZ's proof-reader? Don't, Comp. SHULTZ, let him call the Grand High Priest of Indiana Comp. 'Reub-in Ped-an any more. He might not know it, but it is *scandalum magnatum*."

What we mean, Comp. LAWRENCE, is that even the Grand High Priest cannot do so, much less any member of his Grand Council. We shall take

special care that our proof reader does not “*Reub-in* *Ped-an*” the Grand High Priest of Indiana *again*. He quotes several extracts from our report with approval.

Under Massachusetts, we find the following in reply to Comp. DAD-MUN, on the subject of Visitors voting :

“In reply—all special rights are conceded to the full extent enumerated, but is that a ‘special *privilege* and right of a Lodge or Chapter,’ Comp. D—, ‘to say who shall become members’ of the Universal Brotherhood? If so, what shall prevent some one Lodge, or Chapter from becoming *arbiter Praternitatis*, and the Mecca at whose shrine *that* privilege may only be obtained? With due deference to ‘our elders and betters,’ we think that a Warrant to make Masons was not given to a Lodge or Chapter for the ‘special privilege’ to make Masons—members—for itself alone. Turn the question over in your mind, our good Companion and brother, and you cannot but *doubt*, at least, the correctness of your opinion.”

Comp. DANA, of Vermont, having said :

“Comp. LAWRENCE enters the list for the honors of Poet Laureate, but CORSON has so long held that coveted title that it will be difficult for another to win it.”

He responds :

“We hope when he reads this report he will count us out of the lists. Odsblood! can’t we undertake to string a little rhyme, with or without reason, without incurring the charge of envy, rivalry, and *sech* sweet and gentle emotions? But we will indulge—we *will* run our heads on our string, *when we feel like it*. When we don’t, we won’t; for as the judicious Pepper sagely observes :

—“‘Egersize ov *runnin* spiles the cistim,
Onles you fele like goin.’”

Comp. WILLIAM J. JOHNSON elected G.: H.: P.: J. EMMETT BLACK-SHEAR re-elected G.: Secretary. SAMUEL LAWRENCE Chairman Committee Correspondence.

ILLINOIS, 1877.

The twenty-eighth Annual Convocation held in the City of Chicago, October 25th. M.: E.: Comp. ARTHUR R. H. ATKINS, G.: H.: Priest.

A large representation of Chapters being present.

The Grand High Priest gives in his Annual Address, the following satisfactory account of the condition of Capitular Masonry in his jurisdiction :

“This Grand Chapter numbers 167 active Subordinate Chapters, with a membership of over 11,000, and one might naturally expect, with even the restraining influence of Capitular Masonry, troubles and dissensions would arise among so great a number. But, Companions, I am pleased to

be able to inform you that with but two exceptions (to my knowledge), peace and harmony have prevailed within our walls."

He reports having arrested the charters of five Chapters, and that the membership has been reduced during the year by deaths, dropping from the roll, and demissions, one hundred and twenty-nine members.

On the subject of the Council degrees he has the following, and in which we fully concur:

"I shall now ask your earnest attention to a matter which I consider of vital interest to Royal Arch Masonry. Many who are present know the importance of the Cryptic degrees, and that without them the Royal Arch degree is shorn of much of its beauty; that, in fact, the Royal and Select Masters' degrees are the key to and explanation of the Royal Arch degree. The Cryptic degrees originally belonged to and were conferred in the Chapter, and up to 1829 the General Grand Chapter claimed jurisdiction over these degrees. Finally, in 1853, the General Grand Chapter, by its action, surrendered its claim to the Grand Councils of the different States. Since that time these beautiful degrees have lost ground, and are now in a languishing condition, except in those States that have them under the control of the Grand Chapters.

"The Grand Chapters of Mississippi and North Carolina have already consolidated with the Grand Councils of those States, and Texas is moving toward the same end. It has become a matter of life or death with Cryptic Masonry throughout the country, and now the Grand Council of Illinois asks this Grand Chapter to take charge of these beautiful degrees, and confer them in our Chapters. M. E. Comp. H. W. WALTER, Grand High Priest of Mississippi, informed me that Cryptic and Capitular Masonry in his State has the same membership. In this State, where there are over 11,000 Masons who have taken the Capitular degrees, there are less than 3,000 who have taken the Cryptic. By taking charge of these degrees, and conferring them upon all Royal Arch Masons, we only take back what was our own, and belonged to Royal Arch Masonry up to 1829, (see report of the General Grand Chapter of that year), and which was taken from Capitular Masonry to increase the number of Grand Bodies, giving honors and titles to a favored few."

The Committee to whom his address was referred, most heartily approved his recommendation on this subject, and a committee was appointed to confer with a similar committee from the Grand Council, whose duty it shall be to prepare and submit to the Grand High Priest, a full and detailed plan for the consummation of such union, and to put the same in full operation.

Comp. JAMES H. MILES presented the Report on Correspondence, briefly reviewing the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, Maryland we regret to say, is not among the number.

He gives a fair synopsis of all matters of interest in the proceedings of the various jurisdictions, but ventures few comments. He retires from the corps, and in conclusion, he says:

"And here ends our labors as a reporter. We never wrote a satisfactory report, and this is the worst attempt of all. But such as it is we give it to you. When another twelve months shall bring to you the Proceedings of this Grand Body, another name will be affixed to the Report on Correspondence. We freely and willingly give place to one fully competent to the task, and who loves it well. He is one of the Old Guard, (Comp. GUERNEY), treat him well and you will learn to love him.

Comp. JAMES C. McMURTRY, G.: H.: P.: JAMES H. MILES, G.: Secretary. THEODORE T. GUERNEY, Correspondence.

INDIANA, 1877.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held in the City of Indianapolis, October 17th. M.: E.: Comp. REUBEN PEDEN, G.: H.: Priest. 78 Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a mere recital of his official acts. He reports no decisions, and says no applications were made to him for the formation of new Chapters.

We notice from the report of the Grand Secretary, that of the surplus funds, \$6,873 34 is loaned to the Grand Lodge and individuals.

Comp. WM. HACKER presents the Report on Correspondence, calling it the "Annual Capitular Review." This is the way he commences:

"In 1854 it was made our duty to write up the Report on Correspondence for the first time; for the next twelve years we had more or less of the same duties to perform each year. We were then permitted to retire, and had long since supposed that we had written out our last report. The whirligig of time, it appears has brought us to the surface again, and as in duty bound we have but to make our best bow and sit down to the task before us."

Under Connecticut, he says:

"We do not know that we understand what this striking from the roll for non-payment of dues implies. We don't like it, however. It is not Masonic, but comes from some one of the modern institutions of the day, and as Masons we should let it remain with those with whom it originated."

We *do like* the term striking or dropping from the roll for non-payment of dues, and believe it is the proper term. It is an older one in this jurisdiction than suspension for that offence.

He doubts the utility or expediency of "Chapters of Sorrow," and so do we.

Comp. HENDERSON, of Kentucky, in his report having said:

"It is universally conceded that Ancient Craft Masonry originally consisted of three degrees, and the *teachings* of what now is known as the Royal Art was formerly a section of the Master's degree."

Comp. HACKER thus responds :

"And so he goes on through his first chapter, noting down what Dr. Oliver says, and what Dr. Mitchell says, etc., to the end of the chapter, and perhaps not one word of truth in regard to the origin of the Chapter or Council Degrees in the whole of it. We regret this, as it tends to throw doubt upon his history of Royal Arch Masonry in Kentucky.

"This is not the time or place, we are well aware, to discuss this matter. But we here take occasion to say that so far from its being 'universally conceded,' there is not one line, word, syllable, letter, or character essential to Royal Arch Masonry that ever was any part of the Master's Degree, and we challenge proof to the contrary. And we further assert that the Master's Degree stands to-day complete and perfect, without any loss or dismemberment whatever, as it did on the twenty-fourth day of June, 1717, when the present Grand Lodge of England was formed. We further say, that we do not care to take as evidence what Dr. A. or Dr. B. has to say in his or their speculations on the subject. We demand facts that are reliable. Give us these and we can draw our own conclusions and make our own speculations.

"This is no new position assumed by us. In making up our report to the Grand Lodge of Indiana, as Grand Master for 1865, in reply to Most Worshipful JOHN McJILTON, Grand Master of Maryland, who, in his address to his Grand Lodge, had taken the same position, on the subject, as is here taken by Comp. HENDERSON, we then said :

"Against this assumption we desire to enter our solemn protest. While it is true 'that the Master's Degree, in its present form, from the many additions that have been made to it in modern times,' is not what it was in the earlier period of Masonic history ; it is *not* true that it has lost any of its essential features whatever ; it is *not true* that there is in the Royal Arch Degree one essential feature that is now nor ever was a part of the Master's Degree of the York Rite since the days of King Solomon.'

"There is now lying before me, as I write, documentary evidence showing most conclusively what the Master's Degree contained at the beginning of the eighteenth century. And from scraps of history that have come down to us well authenticated, we can trace it back prior to the middle of the sixteenth century, at least two hundred years prior to the origin of the Royal Arch, showing most unequivocally that while the Master's Degree is now fully four fold what it was then, it has neither lost nor changed one single essential feature it then contained.'

"This is what we said twelve years ago. We challenged proof to the contrary then, and now here comes our Companion of Kentucky with the often refuted assertion that 'it is universally conceded.'

"Well, Comp. HENDERSON, you know now that it is *not* 'universally conceded ;' and, if you have any evidence of what you say to give, let us have it. We called for it twelve years ago, and we now call for it again."

We await Comp. HENDERSON's reply to the above.

Under Maryland for 1876, he has the following :

"Here we find, as in a number of other jurisdictions, the first business after the opening of the Grand Chapter is to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last annual convocation.

"Well, we have frequently observed that there are usually at our assemblies some one or more present who are extremely anxious to let it be known they are there and ready for business, and a motion to dispense with reading the minutes of the last convocation, is about as handy for that purpose as any other. But, seriously, now, what has this convocation to do with the minutes of the last ? Can it approve or reject them ? We would like to know.

We are inclined to think the point of Comp. HACKER in the above is well taken.

He says the relinquishment of all control over the Council degrees by the Grand Chapter of Indiana, was the salvation of those degrees to them. The reverse is the fact with us, Comp. HACKER. Not more than one Companion in twenty made since the formation of separate Councils have taken those degrees, whereas previously no brother was exalted in this jurisdiction who had not received them.

Quoting our comments on the portion of Grand High Priest FRISB's address, relative to irregularities in some of their Chapters. He says:

"That is just our opinion, Comp. SCHULTZ. The tonic administered was not near strong enough. Had we been Grand High Priest we would not, as suggested, have arrested their charters, for that is what, in the opinion of the writer of this report, the Grand High Priest of Indiana can not legally do. But we would have suspended their labors and summoned the officers to answer before the Grand Chapter, when, without a satisfactory apology and promise of future good conduct, their charters would have been arrested and annulled, and their organization wiped out of existence."

Do we understand Comp. HACKER to say that a Grand High Priest *cannot* arrest the charter of a Chapter? If so, we most respectfully dissent.

Under Oregon, speaking of the resolution to petition the General Grand Chapter for permission to confer the Council degrees in the Chapter, he says:

"We never did see, nor can we yet see, what right or authority the General Grand Chapter has over the matter. If you want to confer the Royal and Select Master degrees in the Chapter, why don't you do so, as Texas has been doing for many years, and as Mississippi is now doing. Suppose the General Grand Chapter gives you the permission you ask for, what will it amount to? Can you confer the degrees in the Chapter any more legally than you can now? We confess we can't see it."

We contend that any Chapter can communicate the information contained in the Council degree to any regularly made Royal Arch Mason, and just as legally too as any Council can, of course where there are regular Councils, it would not be courteous to do so without their consent.

Comp. SIMON S. JOHNSON, G.: H.: P.: JOHN M. BRAMWELL, Grand Secretary.

IOWA, 1877.

The twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Davenport, October 2d. M.: E.: Comp. HORACE S. WINSLOW, G.: H.: Priest. 43 Chapters represented.

The pamphlet before us contains nearly 250 pages of printed matter. It is gotten up in good style, embellished with steel plate portraits of G.: H.: Priest WINSLOW, and Comps. T. S. PARVIN and E. W. EASTMAN, with biographical sketches of the two latter.

The Grand High Priest announced in a few appropriate words, the death of Comp. WM. LEFFINGWELL, P.: G.: Scribe.

He reports having granted dispensations for the formation of three New Chapters. And again the subject of colored Masonry is alluded to in the annual address, the Committee to whom it was referred disposed of that matter by reporting the following:

“In regard to the subject of colored Masonry we need not further express our judgment, as the initiatory move must come from the Grand Lodges of the several States.”

A committee was appointed to confer with a similar committee of the Grand Council, in reference to a transfer of the Council degrees to the Chapters, to report at the next Convocation.

Comp. J. M. SHAFFER presented a full, able, and a somewhat *spicy* Report on Correspondence, he reviews the transactions of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, among which is Maryland for 1876.

Under Connecticut we notice the following:

“BASTARD LOGIC.”

“Under these startling head lines, Companion LEWIS quotes two pages from Companion GUILBERT’s address in 1874, and follows with four pages from Companion PARVIN’s address of 1875. The former goes back to the earliest records and traditions to illustrate the antiquity of Masonry. The latter scouts the idea of its antiquity; and these two lengthy extracts from two worthy Companions are the sermon preached from the text, ‘Bastard Logic.’

“Is the reasoning justly, the thinking justly, of these eminent Companions, a bastard? Is it spurious, false, adulterate? Which is right, GUILBERT or PARVIN? Or has each become father to a child born out of wedlock? Then, are there two children? One, Antiquity; the other, the child of to-day? Both Companions are correct. In its broadest sense, Freemasonry is a science and art coeval with the dawn of existence, and rejoicing each day in the brightness and excellence of a new life, Masonry is forever new, it is forever old. No man can give the day of its birth. The youngest entered apprentice can say that its birthday to him was when he declared his trust was in God, and so trusting he went forward, ever reviving the old, ever living the new.”

The Grand High Priest of Louisiana, Comp. POWELL, made use of the following language in his annual address:

“The political condition of our State is not such as we could desire. Dark shadows still intercept between us and the full enjoyment of equal rights and privileges, which are the lawful heritage of this free and en-

lightened people. We believe, however, that there is yet a future for our beloved State. Our hopes in this direction, so often disappointed, again revive, and we have good reason to believe that the day of our deliverance is not far distant."

Upon which Comp. SHAFFER comments:

"We beg to suggest that the body of Masonry has nothing whatever to do with the 'political condition.' You might as well record a patent back-action religious revival by Moody and Sankey, or other religious mountebanks, as affecting the condition of the Order. If the sublime and ineffable mysteries of Masonry are to be mixed up and confounded with, or compromised by political or religious revulsions, or other 'conditions,' we had better shut up our temples, and let political cheats and charlatans, and religious demagogues and quacks take the business we have in hand out of our authority."

"We beg to suggest" that there was nothing whatever in the remarks used by Comp. POWELL, to justify the stricture of Comp. SHAFFER; and as the two gentlemen referred to in the above, have the confidence and esteem of thousands of the Companions of this country, as well as of Great Britain, we also "beg to suggest" that, whatever the private opinion of Comp. SHAFFER may be in regard to them, the expression of such opinions in a Masonic report, is decidedly out of place, much more so even than an allusion to political matters, as he appears to think Comp. POWELL's remarks were. We have never seen either of the gentlemen mentioned, nor would we go very far out of our way to do so, yet we think a proper regard for the feelings and opinions of others, should have withheld Companion SHAFFER from the utterance of such language in his report.

To show the very vigorous and outspoken style of Comp. SHAFFER, we copy fully his review of our jurisdiction for 1876. He says:

"Companion EMMONS delivered his annual address.

"His introductory begins, 'The ceaseless flow of time's ocean has brought us another year's journey nearer the shores of eternity.' Not so, worthy Companion. This present moment is eternity; all the past is eternity. A year may pass, a million years may pass, and each second of each minute, each minute of each hour, each hour of each day, each day of each year is eternity. Eternity has no shores or boundaries. We are part of the eternity in which we find ourselves, and all who have preceded us, all who shall follow us, are only part of the eternities in which they lived, or in which we live."

"STATUS.—He says: 'A comparison of the returns with those of previous years, will show that the exaltations have been fully as great as could be reasonably expected, taking into consideration the stringency of the times, etc. A satisfactory sign of the times is found in the fact that the Chapters are requiring greater proficiency in their candidates for Council honors, unhesitatingly turning down those who have not made themselves thoroughly competent to acceptably fill these responsible positions.'

"'Fully as great.' This is what he says of the exaltations. Does not he mean to use the word 'numerous?' There are no great exaltations; they

are all alike, or should be, and do not admit of comparison. And shall a man not be elected to the Grand Council until he is proficient? We have no word strong enough to condemn the word 'candidate' in a Masonic body. No one has a right to be a candidate. In the Masonic Order the office must always seek the man. Right Here: How are you going to make a man a proficient in an office from Tyler to High Priest, until you elect him, and thus force upon him the necessity of qualifying himself for the position? We don't know any other method. The very fact that one Companion is a grand and sensible and intelligent High Priest, or Principal Sojourner, or Captain of the Host, is the very reason that he should not be re-elected or re-appointed, but that the Chapter should choose some other Companion, and demand of him that he qualify himself for his work. This continuous office-holding has done more harm to Chapter Masonry than any dozen of other malign influences combined.

"CRYPTIC MASONRY.—He says: 'A few years ago, for the sake of being in accord with the great majority of our sister Grand Chapters, this Grand Chapter relinquished for the time being, whatever control it had over the Cryptic degrees.'

"Please see what Mississippi has done; and we believe the same should be done by every Grand Chapter. We have expressed our opinion freely on this subject, and can only refer as above, and await the action of the General Grand Chapter.

"He says: 'Even Symbolic Masonry, whose origin the most erudite antiquarian fails to trace,' etc., etc. We like that sentiment. We like it infinitely better than the expression used by our most eminent and learned Companion PARVIN, in his address of 1875. PARVIN says, and truly, (and this sentence absolves him from whatever he has wrongfully said, and us from responsibility of making wrong inferences). 'It originated in the wants of man.' When were the wants of man so few that Freemasonry was not needed? Never! Long before St. John, long before Zerubbabel, long before Solomon, long before Adam, a system like that practiced by speculative Masons was a positive necessity. We believe Moses knew a vast deal about it. We believe his teachers, the Egyptians, knew more than he did. We believe that in the pre-historic times, as Figurier expresses it, so long ago was it, 'The mind, it may well be said, recoils dismayed when it undertakes the computation of the thousands of years which have elapsed since the creation of man,' that the sons of a common Father had the institution of Masonry. The cave-dwellers, the mound-builders, the lake-dwellers, and all the extinct races that have been brought to light by the labors of modern science—all these were Masons; they had their wants like ourselves; nothing could supply it but Freemasonry. Its author and founder *is* the Creator of the universe and of man.' This is not a silly pretension, nor are we silly pretenders for making the declaration, for 'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, as Brother James truly says. Masonry is as old as the races of men, and these lived on the earth so long ago that the mind staggers in the contemplation of the idea.

"REPRINT.—They have estimates of the cost of a reprint of 'one hundred' copies, since 1847. Don't do it. You have 1,298 members. What do you want with one hundred copies of a reprint? Make it two thousand; send a copy to every Companion, and use the balance for exchanges. It can be done cheaply and well. After the forms are made up, the price of the work after the first hundred will be so small that two thousand can be printed, and no one will be disturbed in his finances, neither will the Grand Chapter; for a judicious use of printers' ink always pays, especially since you have a balance of \$1,762, for which you have no better use than to print your book and distribute it.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

"It reviews thirty-six Grand Chapters, and it is all kindly and courteous. He gives four pages to a review of Iowa for 1875. He quotes from Companion PARVIN's address, but he wants to continue in the faith that Masonry is as old as mankind. Correct, worthy Companion. Companion SCHULTZ needs no apology for his 'shortcomings.' 'Fire destroyed his place of business.' That was nothing. 'The unfortunate condition of political affairs in the country again occupied our mind, to the exclusion of almost everything else.' What was that 'unfortunate condition,' and what had a Report on Foreign Correspondence to do with it? We fail to find any sort of correlation."

We hardly think it necessary at this day to enlighten Comp. SHAFFER as to the "unfortunate condition" of political affairs, which existed in the country about November 1876, and which were of such character as to engage the earnest attention of all lovers of our country.

He strongly advocates the transfer of the Cryptic degrees to the Chapter, upon this subject we can shake hands. We have perused this report with much pleasure, we admire his independence, notwithstanding however we think in some instances his remarks lack discretion.

Comp. ABEL DAUGHERTY, G. L. H. P. Wm. B. LANGRIDGE, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS, 1877.

The Thirteenth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Topeka, October 16th. M. L. E. Comp. DWIGHT BRINGTON, G. L. H. Priest. 23 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in his address says, "Peace, Harmony and a fair degree of prosperity prevails among the Chapters throughout the State." He granted one dispensation for a new Chapter.

The following resolution was proposed and referred to the Committee on the Grand High Priest address, the Committee however failed to notice it in their report:

"*Resolved*, That the exercise of any power or authority by this Grand Chapter, or the General Grand Chapter of the United States, looking to the introduction of other Degrees in the Chapter work is hereby disapproved."

Comp. E. T. CARR presents his twelfth annual Report on Correspondence. He says:

"We have endeavored to make it as brief as we could, omitting most of the usual extracts, and confining ourselves to a notice of the more important proceedings of the different Grand Chapters, with an occasional comment."

He quotes several extracts from G. L. H. Priest EMMON'S address, and comments as follows :

"They have a rule allowing Past High Priests to cast one vote, and at the same time the three Representatives of a Chapter cast but one vote collectively. He very properly asks for a change, giving each member a vote."

He says, also :

"After the elective officers had been balloted for and elected, a motion was adopted requesting the Senior Representatives of the Chapters present to retire and report nominations for the Subordinate officers, and they did so. What next?"

As we have before remarked, this system of ours has been much criticised.

Of us personally, he says :

"The Companion is somewhat technical, but as he is so good-natured we excuse him, and at the same time acknowledge we owe him one."

He notices that we are with him

"Upon the Texas rule of allowing visitors to vote upon the applications for Degrees."

And then gives our views in full on that subject, under review of California.

Comp. MOSES S. ADAMS, G. L. H. P. E. T. CARR, G. Sec'y.

KENTUCKY, 1877.

The sixty-second Annual Convocation was held in the city of Louisville, October 15th. M. E. Comp. JAS. W. STATON, G. L. H. Priest. 84 Chapters represented.

From the very able address of the Grand High Priest we quote the following, relating to the formation of this Grand Chapter :

"Nearly sixty years ago a little band of Royal Craftsmen—thirteen in number—the representatives of the three Chapters in the State of Kentucky, met in the town of Frankfort, and organized the 'Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Kentucky,' and proceeded forthwith to elect and install their officers. The new organization flourished as well as could be expected in those days, and continued to do so until about the year 1830, when it began to wane. In the year 1826 the muttering thunder of the anti-Masonic storm was heard in Western New York, and in a short period it swept like a mighty hurricane all over the Northern and Eastern States, until the very existence of the grand old fabric of Masonry seemed about to be blotted out forever. This wonderful fanatical movement did not reach the West as a political movement at all, but it did affect us socially, and so much so that it was exceedingly unpopular to be associated with

the fraternity of Freemasons in any way. It is only through the influence of the anti-Masonic movement that I can account for the waning influence of the Grand Chapter about the year 1830, and it continued to wane until the meeting in 1835, when it suspended, and it seemed as though its sun had set forever. It continued dormant through the years 1836, 1837, and 1838, but in 1839 it resumed labor and has met annually ever since. We have much to console us in those dark days of anti-Masonry, especially in the fact that the most influential and talented, whether in State, Church, or society, were firm supporters of the Institution. So far as I can learn, there were none that withdrew from the Order, and denounced it, as was the case in the Northern and Eastern States.

"In resuming in 1839, there was but little to encourage those who undertook the labor, but their faith was strong, and from this new beginning has grown the beautiful Royal Arch tree whose branches now overshadow the entire jurisdiction. We have now enrolled one hundred and seven Chapters and nearly four thousand affiliated members, or about one to every six affiliated Master Masons. It is true that we have not made as rapid increase as perhaps some other, and even younger jurisdictions; but it has been steady and healthy, and we are able to boast that some of the most talented men in the State, of every honorable calling in life, have been our patrons, and many of them have presided over our Councils. The dark days of anti-Masonry have gone and are now rarely thought of, except by the Masonic book-hunter, who eagerly seeks for their printed transactions and literature to preserve as a matter of history."

He says he has not received a single application for a dispensation to organize a new Chapter, during his term of office, which he does not regard as do some, an unhealthy state of the order, as they have now more Chapters than are necessary, some of them having less than twenty members.

Of the General Grand Chapter he says:

"Is no longer the dead, lifeless body that its enemies have claimed it to be, but is a body of life and energy, with plenty of talent and sufficient ability to make it respectable in any country. It is no longer opened and closed in that style which is calculated to disgust intelligent Royal Arch Masons, but at the late triennial convocation, was opened and closed in as good order as any Royal Arch Chapter in the land.

"It is gradually assuming the dignity of a governing body, as well as an advising body, and by its kind and conciliatory course has won back nearly all the seceding Grand Chapters."

He advises the reprinting of the earlier proceedings, and in order not to embarrass the finances of the Grand Chapter, he suggests that the Grand Chapter appropriate two hundred dollars per annum and have them printed in parts, until they are brought up to date, which suggestion was approved and a resolution to that effect adopted by the Grand Chapter. We think this an excellent plan and respectfully recommend its adoption by our Grand Chapter.

The death of P.: G.: H.: P.: Comp. ANDREW M. JANUARY was announced, he was made a Mason in 1818, being nearly as old in Masonry as the Grand Chapter.

Comp. ROB. MORRIS delivered an address "in relation to his visit to the Holy Land, and his observations therein with reference to the Mark degree."

A Committee was appointed to report at the next Annual Convocation, in regard to the transfer of the Council degrees to the Chapters.

Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON presents again the Report on Correspondence, he manages in 85 pages to review the proceedings of the various Grand Chapters, and in a very able manner. He gives nearly four pages to the introduction, from which we give the following extract :

"We have never seen anything develop so rapidly as the literature of Royal Arch Masonry. Ten years ago, when we first became personally acquainted with this department of letters, there was a paucity of ideas that was positively distressing to a thought-searcher. But year after year has added to the stock of jurisprudence, homilies, and sentiments until, to-day, it is a decided pleasure to read up the intellectual and facetious deliverance of the Reportorial Corps. And the superiority of the veteran reviewers to the Grand High Priests is very apparent to one, who annually reads the addresses and the *appendices*.

"The Grand High Priests remind us of a penny kaleidoscope. As the few bits of broken glass, colored beads, and artificial flowers yield a new pattern every time the instrument is turned over, so the same triteisms, moral cant, and hackneyed phrases are made to do annual service, no matter who reflects them. There is a change of arrangement and of the mental angles of reflection, but the same old fragmentary material. Now and then, 'like angel's visits,' etc., some one gives us a diorama of new and pleasing views, and such men are hailed by the reviewers as the discoverer of continents, by Kings avaricious of wealth and dominion. The Committees on Foreign Correspondence are the true gold-washers of Masonry—separating the shining particles from the worthless tale and sand. Some of them, too, are mint-masters, giving the mental gold new coinage and currency and sending it into the world stamped with their own image and superscription.

"In no field have we ever found more sharp, active, keen invective, tempered with good humor, than in the Reports on Foreign Correspondence. Like the sham duels and battles of the stage there is such a terrible earnestness as to make one think that blood instead of carmine is flowing, but, behind the gilded, pasteboard shields of these doughty Knights, hearts are beating with such fraternal kindness that the hand that holds the mimic sword would not hurt a hair of the brother with whom he wages harmless war. Most of them, so valiant, are like Sir John Falstaff, fond of the parade and pomp of war enough to exclaim: 'But for these vile guns I would myself have been a soldier,' and when they essay a crusade its more a charge on windmills than a tilt with giant Knights. There's good old Doctor Corson! now, one, from the sulphurous smell of his writings would expect to see one of Satanic mein, a dread Apollyon brandishing his fearful dart, and never so well pleased as when, with sardonic grin, he contemplates some fell victim of his vulcan-forged javelin. But, when you see him, he is a meek and modest Doctor, a veritable hero of *pill*-age, but not the battle-scarred veteran, hung round with trophy scalps, that a deluded fancy painted him to be. Instead of finding him plotting the death of others, you will find him toying with the muses, and far more ready 'to die of a rose in aromatic pain' than clotted with gore amid the tumults and terrors of the battle-field. And so with others. The only really porcupine nature we ever had in our guild has been 'hoist by his own petard,' and no longer lets

fly his ugly quills at the amiable coterie who compose our Mutual Admiration Society."

Under Illinois he says:

"A committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency, and if deemed advisable, to report a plan for establishing Chapters to work in the German language. We do not approve of such a scheme. It practically excludes Americans, because they know not the language. It has a tendency to perpetuate the prejudices of nationality, which is contrary to the spirit of Masonry and the genius of American institutions. All Germans in this country understand our language, and no arrangements ought to be made which tend to retard their knowledge of the nation's leading language. A homogenous people is the great desideratum of this country.

"In Philadelphia they have a Lodge, we understand (Mozart), composed of musicians. Its the right of any citizen of good repute to make application for initiation or affiliation to any Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may reside.

"Is it Masonic to black-ball a man because he don't know the diatonic scale? The special features are contrary to the design of our Institution and detrimental to the interests of American society. We want to associate with our German brethren, and if they are to set up for themselves, and perform their work in their native language, we will be denied this privilege."

We concur, except perhaps, that in a cosmopolitan city like New York, where there is such a large transient population of the natives of foreign countries it may be desirable and advisable to hold Lodges in the French, German and Spanish languages.

Under Maryland for 1876, he quotes several lengthy extracts from the address of Grand High Priest EXMONS, commenting on the remarks relative to the Council degrees, as follows:

"We are more than ever convinced that there are too many departments of Masonry, and that the Past Master's Degree should be relegated to the Symbolic Lodge, and the Council Degrees incorporated with the Chapter. It would be an economy of time and conduce to better work. Men have ambition to become proficient in departments of Masonry, and they perfect themselves in their favorite branches. Make the Cryptic Degrees a part of the Chapter work, and that large class anxious to make themselves expert in the Capitular work would study the Cryptic Degrees; whereas, now, they stop with the Royal Arch. The fewest possible number are proficient in Cryptic Masonry. Then it takes extra time under a separate organization. By taking them into the Chapter they are made, by this act, necessary antecedents to the Chivalric Orders. The Knights have long refused to make the Cryptic Degrees necessary to candidacy for the Orders, but if the Chapter will include them in such a way as to give them precedence, in order of conferring, to the Royal Arch, the desirable end will be compassed. To this arrangement the Knights will not object. Their objection has been that they entailed cost, and thereby blocked the way of many who would, while free from the expenditure, apply for the Knightly Orders.

We concur in the greater part of the above, but we should be sorry to see the Past Masters degree "relegated to the symbolic Lodge," for should

it be ejected from the Chapter series, an entire change in the ritual of the several degrees will become necessary, or else only those who have actually passed the chair can be permitted to receive the Royal Arch, and it is now too late in the day to thus confine that degree.

He further says:

“The custom in the jurisdiction had been to elect the Grand High Priest to a second term. The Grand High Priest had the magnanimity to request that the breach of the custom be made in his case, and another selected to preside.

“While we admire the spirit that prompted this generous suggestion, we seriously doubt the propriety of breaking up the usage. One year’s tenure is barely sufficient to yield that experience, which makes the presiding officer valuable.

“A photographic album, containing the pictures of the officers of the Grand Body, had been prepared under a previous resolution, and was presented by the committee and received. It cost \$169—a pretty expensive luxury, if it is to be followed as a precedent, but we presume it was designed for the Centennial year.”

We inform Companion HENDERSON that the album has been made sufficiently large to contain the portraits of the first six Officers of the Grand Chapter for fifty years, the only expense now incurred is the yearly cost of the six (cabinet size) photographs.

He compliments us personally by saying our “pen is facile and fascinating,” and quotes quite fully the views expressed in our report; he does not however concur in our views on the eligibility question, on which he comments as follows:

“Beyond constitutional provisions we can see no reason for requiring that the Master of a Lodge should have been a Warden. The *Ahiman Rezon* clearly sets forth the doctrine that the only means of preferment among Masons is merit. It is not meritorious to be a Warden, simply. We have known brethren, placed in the position and who passed both of the Warden’s chairs, without ability to open the Lodge without prompting.”

If Companion HENDERSON will read the *whole* charge in the “*Ahiman Rezon*,” from which he quotes, he will find that it also says “no one can act as Master who has not served as Warden,” which point we endeavored to discuss under present review of California. We are a little surprised to find Comp. HENDERSON takes this position, for we have regarded him as one of the old fogys, standing manfully by the “ancient ways,” and we would ask our Companion how he can reconcile the above views with his noble sentiments under review of Massachusetts, to wit, (the italics are ours):

“As well attempt to gild refined gold, or tie ribbons to the sun, as to attempt to adorn Masonry. It is grandest in its naked simplicity. It is one

of the anchor grounds—in common with the Bible, the Prayer-book, and Shakspeare—of our noble old mother-tongue. It is to be adhered to rigidly, no matter how it may offend the polite ears of some diletantes who think nothing is good in language unless it is compounded of the Greek and Latin. Our ritual is nervously strong in the use it makes of *the good old Anglo-Saxon elements*. Every Mason is under sacred obligations to impart the work as he received it. We like *that old musty savor which attaches to the language of Masonry*. It betokens its antiquity and having stood the test of time is evidential of its worth."

Now if one by one the old regulations, traditions and customs, be set aside, simply because "*we can see no reason for requiring them,*" how long we would ask, will it be before all "*the good old saxon elements*" as also "*that musty old savor which attaches to the language of Masonry,*" is entirely eliminated from our institution and it become no more nor less than any other of the many modern societies of the day?

He does not favor the conferring of the "Eastern Star," or any other degree, upon the ladies. Under review of Wisconsin, he gives two pages to this subject, and from which we quote the following:

"If, in a stretch of gallantry, we were to admit ladies, we could have no assurance that Miss Susan Smith, in less than a month after being raised, wouldn't become Mrs. John Jones, and, if it be true, that when a man and woman marry they twain become one flesh, then every time a brother Mason married a sister Mason we would lose a member. At any rate the change of names would cause confusion in calling the roll of the *workmen*. Then if we admitted the ladies to our Lodge-rooms we would become so engaged with their charms that we would forget our work.

"The light that lies
In woman's eyes"

would eclipse the great lights that burn about our altar, and her musical voice so charm the sense, entrance the soul, and thrill and transfix the heart, that we would be deaf to the Master's coarse call to Masonic duties. And, so, while the ladies may not join us, they may know that about our altars we plight their chastity and protection, and that our gallant hearts and strong arms will ever be ready to defend them from all that can harm or hurt.

Bound with the proceedings is the Constitution, By-laws and Rules of Order, thirty-one pages of closely printed matter, with *so* much law, the Grand Chapter of Kentucky should surely be a well governed body. Among the regulations we notice "that an objection after a clear ballot will arrest the conferring of the degrees," which we consider the correct doctrine.

JAS. B. BLUE, G. L. P. JOS. H. BRANHAM, G. Secretary.

LOUISIANA, 1878.

The Thirty-first Annual Convocation was held in the city of New Orleans, February 12th. M.: E.: Comp. JOSEPH H. DEGRANGE, G.: H.: P.: 18 Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is quite brief, he reports :

“The condition of Capitular Masonry is peaceful, although I must report the number of our members have considerably decreased, a fact that is due altogether to the depressing financial condition of the community. For the rise and progress of Masonry of any jurisdiction fluctuates with the financial condition of the community within which it is implanted. Quietness has reigned supreme, no case of bickering or quarrel has come to my knowledge, and no act performed by any officers or Chapter that required my interposition. This state of affairs is a source of congratulation, for it has made the term of office with which you honored me, pleasant and agreeable, figuratively speaking, strewn with roses.”

Among his decisions we notice the following and which fully accords with our opinion under review of Delaware :

“The fact of sending a respectful note excusing himself from attendance was, in reality, answering the summons, and was an acknowledgment of the authority of the Chapter, fully showing no intention of disrespect to the Body.”

The transactions are altogether of local interest.

We have at last a Report on Correspondence from this jurisdiction. A most able and interesting one, submitted by Comp. JAMES C. BATCHELOR, in which he reviews the various Grand Chapters of the country, many of them for two and some for three years.

He gives Maryland for 1875, 1876 and 1877 fraternal notice.

Reviewing our report for 1876, he says :

“He is a little surprised at our G. H. Priest declining to answer *all* questions, propounded by *any* companion! (The reference covers your exception, Companions EMMONS, [SCHULTZ,] and more, too.) He expresses surprise at the powers exercised by our Dep. G. H. Priest. Our Constitution says, ‘that the powers of the Grand Chapter and Grand Officers are such as are specified in the Constitution of the G. G. Chapter, U. S.’ (See Art. II, Sec. 4.) But our Dep. was in the city, (G. H. Priest, not,) and was Act’g G. H. Priest. All right, Companion, except the ‘commission;’ ‘will fall a snake on that.’ As to that vote, we decided, that where a specific vote (*by Chapters*) was ordered, that in that case, officers were *not Chapters*, and that the three representatives of the Chapters, only, voted. Upon ordinary legislative questions—not a special vote by Chapters—the officers have a vote.

“As to that report ‘that was nearly finished,’ you see, the Chairman never got time to finish it, and we are now trying to substitute something for it; and the only satisfaction we have for its inferiority is, that inferiority is the natural classification of ‘substitutes,’ masonically, at least. He is a great believer in old legends, but does not believe in Parvin’s ‘conclusion;’

is decidedly non-progressive, and believes in 'Masonic Infancy.' Well, Companion PARVIN, too, had a Masonic infancy, but it was a long time ago; he was "one of the first Masonic settlers in that *knighted* land of Iowa. From what the Rev. Companions Corson and Wiggin say, and Henderson, too, I should suppose they hold a strong hand up there; so, if you Wentz for him, (must beg Wentz's pardon, thought Schultz was him), beware of his 'Right Bower;' better pass, than go it blind on infancy."

Quoting our remark that the only reason for the Past Master's degree in the Chapter, is the requirement that no one can be exalted to the degree of Royal Arch "who has not presided in the Oriental Chair," he comments as follows :

"We are discourteous enough to imagine that, 'who has not *presided* in the Oriental Chair,' and should read, was not a 'Past Master.' Now, the old English definition of a P. M. was 'one who had been elected to and presided over a just and legally constituted lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and had *served his time*, (or term). Here, you see, is where the 'inherent rights' of the Grand Master came in. No such 'degree' as that of P. M. was known, before Webb introduced it into the Chapter (*de nova*,) and it never was *de jure*, although with us it unfortunately may be said to be *de facto* : and how will his 'presiding' agree with the following, from his review of Kansas? :

"We cannot assent to the first two. A present High Priest cannot rank as a Past High Priest until he retires from office, (passes the chair as in the regulations), no matter how long he remains there, he is a Present and not a Past Officer."

"What is the difference in principle, between P. M. and P. H. P? If the principle will not operate in both ways, for and against, your last position is the right one, and instead of the P. M. 'Degree,' we should term it as the English did and do now, 'The Secrets of the Chair.' It is a botched up affair; it was created for a specific purpose and without authority or right, and like all things of the kind gives trouble ultimately. Well, as we too are among the young ones, we take this opportunity to compliment Companion Schultz on the very excellent result of 'procrastination,' if it be the 'thief of time.'"

We are not at the moment prepared to say whether or not there was "such a degree as that of Past Master before Webb introduced it into the Chapter," but Comp. BATCHELOR will admit that it has been a requirement in the Chapter ever since Webb's day, now over eighty years, a period of time sufficiently long to give that sanctity to the practice that long usage always gives. We agree with him that "it is a botched up affair," as far as the Chapter is concerned, being conferred there simply that the door may be opened to many who never could otherwise receive the Royal Arch degree. From long usage, however, the custom has become a landmark, and we should not therefore favor its abolishment.

Under review of Maine he has considerable to say on this same subject, the Past Master's degree, which is quite interesting, and we would like to quote in full, but space forbids.

Under review of New Jersey he thus replies to Comp. CORSON, on the objection question, and we think most sensibly :

“ Does not this difference of opinion, in a measure grow out of the local regulations ? In ours, it is deemed essentially necessary in all, to preserve the harmony of the body. Therefore, we give the preference to the in’s, and think it better to reject (by acknowledging the right of objection,) and retain the member, than to accept the candidate and lose the member ; and in acknowledging the right of objection—we do so in full, making it a right, not a qualified right, and do not require that the objector should state his reasons for his objection. As to the violation of *promise* to the party elected, and to reject him after election as well as before, that is mere bosh, for there has been no violation of a pledge whatever—for in our jurisdiction, and I believe in all others, it is or should be, as well known to a candidate or brother, that he may be objected to, as it is that he may be black-balled. If he applies it is of his own free will and accord, and under a tacit agreement to abide by the usages of the Craft in this jurisdiction.

“ We recognize your assertion ‘right is right, and should prevail,’ but make a different application of it :—We would not for a moment justify a petty, unjust or spiteful objection, founded upon malice or injustice of any kind. That such have occurred, and may occur again, is not to be denied, (unfortunately,) for Masons are but humane, and in some cases the very poorest kind of humanity. So it is, has been, and ever will be, while we have but men to make Masons of—could we get material of the ‘Angeliferous’ kind, even then we might have to qualify it, (good, etc.) The simple question seems to be, is the right to object, to be acknowledged ? If so, then let it be in its fullest sense, and, if you do not wish to be annoyed by the abuse of the said right, be more careful who you elect, and we must add, too, who you accept. If, relative to the principle, there be a doubt, then let the Mason and the Fraternity have the benefit of that doubt to the exclusion of the profane or the ‘elected.’ If our companions of New Jersey think it better to maintain the opinion, that charges only can stop an elected party—then, so be it, (for New Jersey.) They are fully competent to decide for themselves, nor have we, as a self-elected mentor, or so-called scold master general, the right to arraign them, because, forsooth, they may chance to use ‘Blue Glass’ to peep through. Poor Frank, he cannot reply, and we are sure none will regret it more than Comp. Corson. Yes, ‘the Master of the Vineyard has called him,’ and he has gone to give an account of his stewardship.

We find that he also does not coincide with Comp. Corson in the doctrine advanced by him, that a Companion “is answerable alone to the Chapter of which he is a member, no matter where his residence may be.”

On which subject he comments as follows :

“ This is a doctrine that some of the roaming species of the fraternity would like to see obtained.

“ No, no, Companion Corson, a Mason should be subject (for violation of general principles) to the powers [Masonic] that be—wherever he is, and in whatever jurisdiction. The good Mason does not fear such laws—only the wrong doer and the vicious need dread such a principle, and one, too, that in our ignorance we had supposed, very generally admitted.

We have derived much pleasure and no little profit from the Report of Comp. BATCHELOR, and regret we cannot copy more fully from it.

Comp. WM. ROBSON, G.: H.: P.: JAS. C. BATCHELOR, G.: Secretary.
 JOS. PITTS HORNER, Chairman Committee Correspondence.

MAINE, 1878.

The fifty-third Annual Convocation was held in the City of Portland, May 7th. M.: E.: Comp. A. B. MARSTON, G.: H.: Priest. A remarkably full attendance, there being 41 Chapters represented out of 42.

The Grand High Priest reports having granted a dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, although he says he is not in favor of establishing new Masonic bodies at the present time, yet, after thoroughly examining into the matter, he became satisfied the interests of the Order would be subserved thereby; the petition was signed by eighty-four R. A. Masons.

We copy in full the decisions reported by him, as we believe all of them eminently sound. We are gratified to notice that they are in full accord with the opinions heretofore expressed by us on the same subjects.

“Ques. Can a Companion holding office in a R. A. Chapter become a petitioner for a dispensation for a new Chapter during his term of office, or can he, by any means, vacate his office before the end of the year for which he was elected or appointed?

“Ans. A Companion being elected or appointed to, and accepting an office by being installed, thereby pledges himself to perform the duties of that office during the term for which he was elected or appointed, and until another shall be elected and installed in his stead. He cannot, therefore, become a petitioner for a new Chapter during his term of office, as that would imply a right to resign, which right does not exist; neither can an installed officer dimit from a Chapter during his term of office.

“Ques. A Companion pays his dues regularly in the Chapter, but has been suspended from membership in a Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues. Can a charge of unmasonic conduct be sustained in the Chapter for non-payment of dues in the Blue Lodge?

“Ans. It cannot. In the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a brother, for non-payment of dues, is not suspended from the ‘rights and benefits,’ but only ‘deprived of’ or ‘suspended’ from *membership*. This action does not affect his standing in the Chapter. A Companion may retain his membership in the Chapter, and be non-affiliate in the Blue Lodge.

“Ques. Is it necessary that a diploma should be signed by the three Companions who composed the Council at the time a candidate was exalted? If so, in case of the death of one of the Council, what is to be done.

“Ans. The issue of a diploma having been delayed for a term of years, the Council serving at the time of such issue may lawfully sign the diploma, dating it at that time. In case of the death of one of the Council (a diploma being issued immediately), the Companion serving in his place at the time of exaltation may sign as *pro tempore*.

“Two Chapters wish to consolidate and form one Chapter: each passes a resolution to surrender its charter, when the other shall do the same, one by a vote of fifteen to three, the other votes by a large majority, but eleven of its members sign and enter a protest against the surrender of the charter.

“*Ques* Is such action by a Chapter legal?

“*Ans.* It is not. In the first case, the vote to surrender the charter, *contingent upon the action of some other body*, amounts to nothing, upon the same ground that a vote to dimit a Companion or Brother, ‘*when his dues are paid*,’ is without effect. By this action, the Chapter would virtually surrender the control of its charter to parties who are not members of the Chapter, thus acting in violation of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, which grants a charter to certain Companions and their successors, which charter, or the control of it, can only be surrendered by the consent of the Grand Chapter. The vote of the second Chapter is also void, as in addition to the objection in the former case, *eleven* of its members (nine being a constitutional number) wish to retain the charter.”

It will be seen, he contends, “that an installed officer cannot become a petitioner for a new Chapter, because he *can neither dimit nor resign*; the contrary of this has been practiced several times within our knowledge, both in the Lodge and other departments in this jurisdiction, we contending at the time it was wrong. Also that a non-affiliate in the Lodge *can* retain membership in the Chapter. California, Iowa, Michigan and other jurisdictions have seen proper to make a different regulation. And that so long as nine members wish to retain the charter it *cannot* be surrendered; this principle we contended for under review of New York in 1876.

The remaining officers of the Grand Council, as well also as the District Deputy G.: H.: Priests, made their usual reports, and from which we judge a fair amount of prosperity exists throughout the jurisdiction.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. JOSIAN H. DRUMMOND. He says, however, he was assisted in its preparation by Comp. JOHN S. DERBY.

Under Canada we find the following:

“We agree with him as to the danger of overloading the Chapters with degrees; and we have never seen this argument, against turning the Council degrees over to the Chapters, answered; and the argument is a very weighty one.

“The Council degrees were never a ‘part of the system’ of the A. and A. Rite. It is quite probable that they were once ‘side degrees,’ possessed by the cultivators of that system: but it has long since relinquished all authority over them.”

Exactly so, that is just what we have always contended for; they were never regarded as other than “*side degrees*,” until CROSS, who received them as such, in our City of Baltimore, afterwards formed Councils and Grand Councils in New York and in some of the New England States. There is no necessity, whatever, to “*overload*” the Chapters. As the Council Degrees were conferred here previous to 1872, it did not consume over thirty minutes time for both degrees, and all the essentials were communicated in

full, so we can't see that the argument of Comp. DRUMMOND is very "*weighty*" after all.

Under Louisiana he again very ably discusses the Past Master's Degree, and which, as we remarked in reference to the arguments of Comp. BATCHELOR on the same subject, we would like to give in full, but must forbear, merely remarking that he says, the law requiring the possession of that degree before receiving the Royal Arch, prevailed in 1744, and has ever since. We respectfully commend this fact to the attention of Comp. BATCHELOR.

He gives a short synopsis of our proceedings of 1877—says:

"Upon the roll we note, appended to the report of nearly every Chapter, a little list of those who have 'withdrawn.'"

Reviewing our report, the committee say:

"Under California, referring to Comp. WIGGIN's statement, that it is not required in that State that a Master should previously have served as a Warden, he says:

"We are really surprised to learn that even one jurisdiction permits so flagrant an innovation. We doubt whether Comp. WIGGIN can name another in the whole United States which does."

"We can inform our Companion that there certainly is *one* other jurisdiction where they flagrantly innovate in just this way. The Grand Lodge of Maine, in 1861, and again in 1864, enunciated the doctrine that it was 'not necessary for a brother to serve as Warden, in order to be eligible to the office of Master.'

"In his review of Illinois, he gives as his opinion, that in the absence of the first three officers of a Masonic body, it cannot be opened for the dispatch of business, and invites the 'views of the corps upon the question.'

"So far as we are concerned, the matter is settled by the provision in both Lodge and Chapter, that in the absence of the three highest officers, the body may be opened by a Past Master or a Past High Priest, as the case may be. These provisions are, in our opinion, in consonance with the most approved usage; and we do not believe that the necessary and unavoidable absence of those officers would close the doors of the Lodge or Chapter.

"This view has been sustained, so far as the Lodge is concerned, and no doubt the Chapter follows the analogy, by enactments and decisions in Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, New Hampshire and Wisconsin.

"CHASE, in his digest, inclines to the opinion of Companion SCHULTZ, though he thinks the question as to the right of the Past Master to act in the absence of the Master and Wardens a 'doubtful' one, and quotes, approvingly, the sound advice of Brother MOORE, that in the absence of their officers, the members had better go home, and see to it that the next year their places are filled by brethren who will better attend to their business."

Well, we can but reiterate the astonishment expressed under our several reviews of California. It does seem surprising to us, (we say it with due respect) that an old and conservative jurisdiction like that of Maine, should so "*flagrantly innovate*," not alone on the previous service regulation,

but also in that it permits a Lodge or Chapter to be opened in the absence of the first three officers for the dispatch of the regular business. The old regulation, it is true, did permit a Past Master to open and preside in the absence of the Master, but only after one of the Wardens had "first congregated the lodge," the natural inference from which is, that unless at least a Warden be present, the Lodge cannot be opened. But leaving this, as we conceive it to be, well defined regulation out of the discussion, it can, we think, be proven by analogy, that unless one of these officers is present it is impossible properly and legally to open a Lodge.

The Charter of a Lodge is given into the custody of the first three officers and their successors in office *alone*. No one else has any right with it whatever. (The Grand Master may for cause order its arrest.) For conveyance, and safety perhaps, it is now usually left in the Lodge rooms, but it is presumed to be always in the possession of the Master, on his person in fact. When that officer is unable to attend a meeting of the Lodge, it is his duty to hand it to the Senior Warden, and should circumstances prevent his attendance, it is *his* duty to deliver it to the Junior Warden. This officer having no authority whatever to hand it to anyone else, it follows, that should he also be absent, the Charter, although it may be actually in the Lodge room, yet technically it is not present, and as its presence is absolutely required before a Lodge can be legally opened, it necessarily follows that it is impossible to do so in its absence.

The same reasoning, of course, applies to the Chapter, as the same language is used in the Charters of both.

We have no doubt, however, some will say this is an old exploded idea, and perhaps even contend that it is not necessary that the Charter should be present at a meeting of Lodge or Chapter, and that they can be opened just as well without. But we were taught differently; and among our instructors were some who first saw the "*light*" three-quarters of a century ago, and it would be difficult indeed to convince us that their teachings were not in accordance with those "Ancient Regulations and Charges," to which they, and so many both before and since their day, who have been called upon to preside, solemnly agreed, "It was not in the power of any man or body of men to make changes or innovations therein."

The regulation requiring previous service as Warden before one can act as Master, we consider not only an imperative regulation, (except in the case of the formation of new bodies, or when an old one should have no member so qualified) but that it is likewise a most salutary one. No brother

or companion, however high his literary attainments may be, unless he has a knowledge of the peculiar laws and regulations of the Order, so many of which being unwritten and traditional, are only acquired by time and earnest study, can properly preside over a Lodge or Chapter, and what better way is there to acquire that knowledge and that experience, than faithful service in the subordinate positions?

The committee are pleased to say that our report of last year is an excellent one, and quote an extract from our conclusion "to prove that we are a true Mason."

We heartily endorse the sentiment in the following, under Massachusetts :

"If *any* question exists as to the propriety of conferring the degrees upon an applicant, give the fraternity the benefit of the doubt. Too much care cannot be exercised in guarding the entrance to the sanctuary."

And under Oregon, we are pleased to notice that the committee sustain the position assumed by us under review of Indiana, that the term "dropping from the roll" is an old one, and that suspension for non-payment of dues *is a modern term*. They say :

"Portland Lodge, organized in 1769, in its early proceedings, uniformly dropped the names from the list of members, of those who failed to pay quarterages; and the records plainly show that the idea was never entertained that a Lodge could impose any greater penalty. From this long usage, our law, limiting punishment for non-payment of dues to deprivation of membership, undoubtedly arose."

"We have had occasion to become quite familiar with the records of Portland Lodge, organized in 1769, and the theory upon this subject was, that a Mason might pay 'quarterages' and have lodge privileges, or not pay them and not have those privileges, as he pleased. It was regarded as entirely optional with him: if he failed to pay his dues, his name was dropped from the rolls by the Secretary without any ceremony, but by being dropped he lost none of his Masonic rights or privileges, except those connected with that lodge; he could be a member of as many lodges as he pleased, provided he could get elected. The fundamental idea was, that membership was a *privilege*, which a Mason could have by paying for it. In the records of that lodge for the first fifty years, not the slightest trace of his idea, that non-payment of dues is a Masonic offense, can be found. We have looked into the records of many other old lodges, and we found the same as in the records of Portland Lodge. And we have as yet found no instance of suspension from all Masonic rights for the non-payment of dues till since the revival of Masonry after the Morgan excitement."

"At any rate, we in Maine have an usage for more than one hundred years to justify our law, that the penalty for non-payment of dues shall be only suspension from or deprivation of membership."

We have also discovered that by a regulation in an old Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, it was altogether optional with a brother when receiving the Master's Degree to become a member of the Lodge. This

regulation was in the Constitution as late as 1844, (although perhaps a mere dead letter.) We believe such is now the regulation in Massachusetts. All of which goes to prove that formerly, at least, membership was regarded as a voluntary matter. We believe it is, at this day, the regulation in Massachusetts.

We have by no means exhausted this report, for we could fill half the space allotted for our report with a review of this one alone, but we have already devoted more to it than we should perhaps have given to one jurisdiction.

Comp. ARLINGTON B. MARSTON, G.: H.: P.: IRA BERRY, G.: Sec'y. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1877.

Quarterly Convocations were held March 13th, June 12th, September 11th, and the Annual Convocation, held in the City of Boston, December 11th. M.: E.: Comp. SMITH B. HARRINGTON, G.: H.: Priest. 53 Chapters represented.

At one of the Quarterly Convocations the several degrees were exemplified by the Grand Lecturer, Comp. SERANUS BOWEN, and from what we know personally of the ability of this Companion as a lecturer, we are sure the duty was well performed.

The Grand High Priest reports :

"October 17th, I publicly installed the officers of Trinity R.: A.: Chapter, Amesbury, assisted by Ex.: Companion Geo. W. CREASY, acting Grand Captain of the Host; R.: Ex.: Companion PIKE, and other distinguished Companions accompanying me. Permit me here to say that Masonry, in none of its branches, should seek publicity. But a public installation properly conducted, occasionally bringing around the Masonic Altar our wives, sisters, and daughters to witness the Sublime Symbols and Ceremonies which are fraught with such beautiful lessons, will help them to form correct ideas of the objects and nature of our fraternal institution."

"There has been three hundred and thirty-seven exaltations during the year. The income of the Grand Chapter is less than last year. The ordinary expenses have been prudently kept within proper limits."

"By the returns we find that one hundred and five companions have passed away since our last Annual Convocation. Among this number R.: E.: SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON, Past Deputy Grand High Priest; R.: E.: EBENEZER W. TOLMAN, Past Grand King; suddenly on Monday, December 3d, Ex.: Comp.: WM. J. SAWIN, D.: D.: G.: H.: P.: of the Fifth Capitular District, passed away with knightly armour on, when about to be installed Eminent Commander of Springfield Commandery Knights Templars."

Among the transactions we notice that fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of Quebec. That Past High Priests were

made members of the Grand Chapter. And that it was voted not to hold Masonic intercourse with the Grand Orient of France.

The proceedings of this jurisdiction are gotten up in fine style, being printed on good paper, in large and clear type.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. JOHN W. DADMUN, containing 113 pages, in which he reviews 40 Grand Chapters and the General Grand Chapter in his usual able manner.

Under Canada we find the following :

“We, too, doubt the expediency of multiplying the degrees of the Chapter, and we are decidedly opposed to any action not in concert with all the Grand Bodies interested. Confusion worse confounded will be the result of independent action in so grave a matter.”

If Comp. DADMUN will notice the large number of jurisdictions who have already taken action upon this subject, he must admit that it is getting to be SOMEWHAT unanimous.

Under review of our jurisdiction he says :

“The Proceedings of ‘Mary’s Land,’ for 1876, comes to us in a beautifully tinted dress, looking as fresh and attractive as ever.”

He gives several extracts from the address of Grand High Priest EMMONS, commenting on one of which he says :

“No better means of stirring up the pure minds of the Companions, by way of remembrance, can be introduced in any Grand Chapter, than that of a thorough and well-arranged system of visitations.”

He says our report “is sprightly, complete and readable.” It is very pleasant indeed to know he thinks so. He says, however, that the paragraph in which we say—that upon payment of the dues, by one who had been dropped, restoration should follow without any further action, “needs a little pruning,” and goes on to say :

“We believe that, on second thought, Comp. SCHULTZ will qualify this, for it is so obviously opposed to general Masonic law and usage.”

We are compelled to say to Comp. DADMUN, that “on second thought” our opinion still remains the same. What is the cause for dropping from the roll or dismissal from membership? Is it not simply that the Companion is indebted to the Chapter, a certain amount of money, which he is either unable or unwilling to pay? This, and nothing else, for if charges are pending against a Companion, he CANNOT be dismissed, the cause being removed by the payment of the dues, what else can or should be required than restoration, and without further ceremony.

He also takes exception to our views on the eligibility question, after quoting what we said on that subject in reply to Companion WIGGIN, he continues:

“But stop a moment and see what the old Constitution says on the Law of Preferment: ‘All preferment among Masons is grounded on real merit only; therefore no Master or Warden is (should be) chosen by seniority, but for his merit.’ Common-sense and usage are all on the side of *preferment on the ground of merit*. Enforce this rule, and many of our Lodges and Chapters, that are now suffering for the want of competent officers, would experience a glorious resurrection. While we fully believe the laborer is worthy of his hire, we do not believe in putting brethren into the chair, who have proved themselves incompetent in subordinate offices.”

Comp. DADMUN, like Comp. HENDERSON of Kentucky, quotes, *only* a portion of the “Old Charge.” Why do they not continue the quotation from that *same* Charge? “*Nor can he act as Master, unless he has served as Warden.*”

Who does believe in putting incompetents into office? Companion DADMUN and others who take the same view of this subject, that he does appear to think that we, who take the opposite side of the question, advocate the promotion of the second and third officers, regardless of qualification, fitness and every other consideration. Now we do nothing of the kind, if it is found that a mistake has been made in the selections of these officers, at the end of the term, turn them down, and put others on trial, retaining your presiding officer: or take a Past officer, (which we think would often be of great benefit to a Lodge or Chapter), and retain them until you find the right man for the position. As we have so frequently remarked in these reports, this change and rotation every year, we are most firmly persuaded is more detrimental to the interests of the Order than any one thing else. But our strongest arguments upon the above subject is that it is a “Landmark” in the Lodge, undoubtedly, and we think should be so regarded in the Chapter likewise.

Neither does he concur in our views on the “objection” question. Quoting what we said under review of Ohio on that subject, he comments as follows:

“Now let us reason together, and see who ‘violates the spirit of our Institution.’

“First. A Mason is bound to assist, protect and defend a brother, under all circumstances, consistent with his obligations; and there is no obligation in one branch of Masonry inconsistent with that of any other. Then, of course, when a M.: M.: applies for the degrees in a Chapter, it is the *duty* of every member to see that he does not suffer under any false imputation.

"Second. No Mason has a right to allow his religious or political principles—Atheists are already excluded—to influence him in deciding upon the merit of a candidate, so long as he is loyal to the government.

"Third. When an application is received, and referred to a committee for investigation, every member is bound in honor, and in justice to the Chapter, and to the candidate, to support the report of the committee, unless he personally knows something against the candidate that disqualifies him to receive the degrees.

"Now what has an objection to do with the 'inviolate secrecy of the ballot'? The ballot has passed, the candidate has been elected; and the objection is virtually a protest against the unanimous ballot, legally and constitutionally expressed and declared. Who is mistaken? The Chapter who pronounced the candidate worthy, or the objector? Ascertain this, by referring the objection to a committee, and then the '*inviolate*' honor of *Masonry* will be vindicated."

In reply to the above we would remark is it not possible, and we contend it is quite natural, that one may be willing to sit in a Lodge with a brother and at the same time be unwilling to receive that brother into the other departments of the Order, and entertaining this feeling, still not be liable to the charge of placing him "*under false imputations*," If not, why have the ballot in the several departments of the institution? Why not have but one ballot for Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, including, if you please, the Scottish Rite also? Now, perhaps no brother should permit personal or any unworthy feelings to control him in balloting either for a profane or for the advancement of a brother, but if he will allow such feelings to actuate him "what are you going to do about it?" You have no right whatever to question his motives, it is a matter for him and his conscience alone.

Supposing the committee, proposed by Companion DADMUN, should report the objections frivolous and, if you please, unworthy of any consideration whatever, would you still force the candidate against the objection of the Companion, compelling him possibly to absent himself from the meetings and thereby create discord and confusion among the craft?

There is to our notion much misconception now a-days on this subject of admissions. If a brother, but expresses a doubt as to the fitness or worthiness of a candidate, he is at once placed on the defensive, (put upon the witness stand in fact), and if he cannot prove beyond any question, that what he may have heard, unfavorably to the candidate is true, he is regarded as doing him great injustice, when the reverse of all this, in our humble opinion, should be the practice. The testimony as to character and fitness of an applicant should be of the most positive character. It is much better that ten good men should be refused, than that one unworthy be admitted. We therefore hold that it is safer to admit none, at any stage, who do not meet the entire approbation of all the members, notwithstanding occasion-

ally a worthy gentleman or brother may be denied admission, which case we think extremely rare indeed.

We had marked much more, to notice, in this most excellent report, but we have dwelt so long that we must move on.

Comp. SMITH B. HARRINGTON, G.: H.: P.: ZEPH. H. THOMAS, G.: Secretary. JOHN W. DADMUN, Correspondence.

MICHIGAN, 1878.

"The twenty-ninth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Detroit, January 15. M.: E.: Comp. OLIVER L. SPAULDING, G.: H.: Priest. 70 Chapters represented.

The proceedings, together with the Report on Correspondence, Constitution, &c., make a volume of over three hundred pages; it is printed on good paper and in clear type, and is well arranged throughout.

We quote the following from the opening of the Address of the Grand High Priest :

"Thirty years ago, a Convention of Royal Arch Masons assembled at Jackson, and organized this Grand Chapter.

"There were then in Michigan three Chapters, with a membership of less than eighty. The first Convocation was held in this city, on the 2d day of January, 1850. Few remain of those who participated in those early meetings; but the wisdom of what they then did, is attested by our meeting to-day, to legislate for one hundred and two subordinates, with nearly eight thousand members."

Among his decisions we find the following. We copy in full the question asked for its NOVELTY; the decision of course is correct :

"7th Question—At our last regular Convocation, a motion was made to donate from our Chapter funds, twenty-five dollars (\$25), to a cornet band, to assist them in procuring uniforms; and carried by a vote of 23 to 2. The question has been raised, as to the legality of this donation, as it is claimed the Chapter has no right to donate money to any but a Masonic organization. Will you please give us your opinion, and also inform us if the Chapter can hire the band and pay them in advance ?

"Answer—I find no warrant for such an application of the funds of the Chapter. They are for Masonic purposes, and should be sacredly held as such. The Chapter has as much right to donate money to a railroad company, or a horse association, as to the proposed object. It is, of course, competent to pay the band for services rendered in Masonic occasions, but I doubt the propriety of paying in advance for possible future services. It is quite time enough to pay when the services have been actually rendered."

We most heartily endorse the sentiments in the following extracts from his address :

"There is more danger in too many than in too few Chapters. It is a good rule to make haste slowly. Proof is not wanting, that, in granting

charters, we have not always adhered to this old-fashioned but quite safe practice.

"It was demonstrated, some thousands of years ago, that brick could not be made without straw; and there is excellent authority that men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles. Do no work, unless good work. By all means surrender your charter, before running in debt or taking in bad men. Do not let your necessities nor your extremities induce the lowering of the standard of Royal Arch Masonry.

"Use the black ball on all proper occasions. It has been sometimes abused, to keep good men out; I fear, oftener to get bad men in. In saying this, I simply urge a just and conscientious use of it.

"The candidate should be well known—his character and fitness established. In a word, he should be a *man* to receive your suffrages—not perfect, for then he would be more than man; but he should have positive, good qualities. He should be a man striving to go up; not a man actively or passively going down.

"Again, don't seek members. If Masonry is worth while, it will attract good men. It always has. Members will come fast enough. It is a voluntary institution—does not want and will not tolerate proselytism. Neither engage in public or private discussion in defense of Masonry. It has taken care of itself so far, and will continue to do so, so long as Masons are true to the great underlying principles of the Order. If they lose sight of these landmarks and let go of their time-honored wise conservatism, they are at once without chart or compass, liable to shipwreck, or to make a harbor among an unfriendly people—wreckers who will hasten to plunder and destroy.

"There are among us some who seek to make innovations in the body of Masonry. Have nothing to do with them, except to get rid of them. Young America must keep his hands off our religion and Masonry."

The Committee on Jurisprudence recommend the following resolution, and which, to our surprise, was adopted by the Grand Chapter. The italics are ours:

"It is ordered that when a Companion has been tried and convicted, for the *Masonic offence of non-payment of dues*, the Chapter shall *forthwith inflict the penalty of expulsion or indefinite suspension*, as it may deem proper; and, in case the Chapter *shall neglect or refuse to inflict such penalty*, the Grand High Priest *shall arrest the charter* of the Chapter refusing to execute this Edict."

From which it would appear that our Companions of Michigan, place the *offence*, non-payment of dues on a par with the crimes of Theft, Murder, Adultery or any other violation of the decalogue. And any Chapter that might be disposed to exercise the God-like attribute MERCY, *shall forthwith have its charter arrested*. Well! well! well! with all due respect to our Most Excellent Companions of Michigan, we consider the above resolution harsh, unjust, and in the highest extreme unmasonic.

The committee to whom was referred the action of Mississippi, in regard to the Council Degrees, reported—

"That they do not find that Cryptic Masonry was ever attached to Capitular Masonry, and that the action of Mississippi, in assuming possession

of those degrees, conflicts with the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter.

"We, therefore, cannot approve of their action."

Mississippi does not, so far as we understand its plan regarding these degrees, propose to attach them to "Capitular Masonry," but propose to confer them in Councils, separate and distinct from the Chapters; or possibly as they were formerly conferred here, in Councils specially convened for the time being; precisely the manner the Past Master's Degree is now conferred upon Masters elect. A number of qualified brethren assemble, open a Past Master Lodge, confer the degree, close,—and that is the end of the matter. And in our opinion that is about all the time and labor that the degrees are worth.

If never really attached to Capitular Masonry. They were practically recognized by the General Grand Chapter. That body in 1829 adopted the following:

"Whereas, It is satisfactorily proved to this General Grand Chapter, that the Constitution of Councils of Royal and Select Master Masons, in different parts of the United States, by sundry persons, has been without any legitimate authority; and Whereas, those degrees are conferred in some Chapters under the authority of the General Grand Chapter; and Whereas, it was proved that it was the sole intention of the M. E. Companions from whom those degrees emanated, that they should be conferred under the authority of Royal Arch Chapters. Therefore,

"Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter cordially recommend to the different Councils in the United States to adopt measures to place those degrees under the authority of the State Grand Chapters.

"Resolved, That authority be, and is hereby granted to the several Grand Chapters, to make such arrangements as shall be found necessary for conferring the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in Royal Arch Chapters; provided always, that no Grand Chapter within the limits of which is a Grand Council, shall authorize the Royal Arch Chapters under its jurisdiction, to confer such degrees without the consent of such Grand Council."

And if that Grand Body had re-adopted the same resolutions at its late Triennial Convocation, it would, we think, have settled this whole question.

Comp. WM. P. LIXES presented a full and very complete Report on Correspondence—170 pages. He gives in full the decisions of the various Grand High Priests, extracting freely from their addresses and from the Reports on Correspondence, now and then making judicious comments.

Under his review of Illinois, we copy the following:

"Considering the question of consolidating the Council Degrees with the Chapter Degrees—one of vital interest to the Craft—and as the action of the General Grand Chapter looked in the direction of leaving the matter entirely in the hands of each State Body, your committee have decided to lay before you, in full, the action taken by our sister, Illinois, on this matter.

"Companions, the question is before us. The hour has come, and it behooves us to consider seriously what action, on our part, will tend to promote the general good of all, and having found the right, to pursue it."

Comp. DRUMMOND, having asked Comp. INNES to give in his reports "more salt," and that he would not object to a little "pepper" also, he thus rejoins:

"Some day we will spill a bushel of salt and pepper on our 'say so' of Maine, and see how Companion DRUMMOND will like it. We don't propose to comment on the doings and writings of such lights as DRUMMOND, CARSON, SCHULTZ, and many others, or we might get such 'back talk' as would ruin our Grand Treasury to reply to."

"Oh, No! Companion DRUMMOND, you can't get *us* into any such scrape. We know how good it is to be 'peppered,' and we want but *very little* on our plate."

We feel highly complimented by being classed with "such lights as DRUMMOND and CORSON," even though we be but a *rash light*.

Under Maryland, for 1876, he gives several extracts from the address of Grand High Priest EMMONS, without comment however. He, too, criticises our method of electing the subordinate officers in the Grand Chapter; speaking of which subject, he says:

"While your committee would refrain from interfering with our Sister Maryland, in her manner of electing her Grand Officers, we must be permitted to disagree with her in this matter, from our stand-point."

"It does appear to your committee, that the same rule ought to apply, in the election of Grand Officers, as applies to Subordinate Officers."

"We advocate the election of *all* officers by ballot; any other system we disapprove of, for reasons that must be obvious to all thinking Royal Arch Masons."

While we do not approve our present system, yet we fail to see the "obvious reasons" that would require all the subordinate officers to be elected. We think those under the grade of Captain of the Host should be appointed by the Grand Council.

He again pays us, personally, a compliment, when saying:

"The reporter read Companion SCHULTZ's report early in the year, and mentally commented upon it as taking rank among the foremost; and when we reflected that it was his maiden report, we were anxious to know the Companion personally."

"Well, time rolled on. 'We met by chance, the usual way,' in Buffalo and Cleveland; and then we were satisfied that among the many good and able Masons Maryland has within her jurisdiction, they could have selected none more worthy or competent for this responsible duty, than Companion SCHULTZ."

Under review of our jurisdiction for 1877, he says:

"Your committee extend congratulations to our Sister Maryland in having discovered the long lost date of her birth."

"The old family Bible has been discovered, (spectacles and all) and beyond a reasonable doubt in the minds of the Companions, their Grand Chapter was organized June 24, 1797, instead of 1814—as heretofore supposed—accordingly the proper committee.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have the date on the seal of this Grand Chapter changed from 1814 to 1797.

"Now everything is lovely, and they go ahead as gaily as possible with their 'sweet seventeen,' added to their old.

"Put us down for more respect for Maryland in the future. Do you take the hint Companion SCHULTZ."

Comp. CHARLES J. KRUGER, G.: H.: P.: WM. P. INNIS, G.: Sec'y. and Chairman of Committee on Correspondence.

MISSISSIPPI, 1878,

The Thirtieth Annual Convocation was held at Grenada, February 5th. R.: E.: Comp. E. GEORGE DELAP, Deputy G.: H.: Priest presiding. 42 Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest, Comp. H. W. WALTER, was read by the Grand Secretary. He gives in full the plan adopted by the joint action of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, in regard to the Council degrees, and says:

"Many of the Chapters in this State have proceeded to act under the order and circular so issued, and others will soon follow.

"Whilst Mississippi cannot boast of as great a number of Royal Arch Masons as some of our sister States, she will soon be able to say that all are possessed not only of the form but the beauty of the Royal Arch, and that they are fully preserving the rite and ceremonies of the Council, so seriously imperilled elsewhere."

The following resolution was offered, and after being discussed was referred to the subordinates for their consideration. With all due respect to the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, this is a matter with which, in our opinion, they have nothing whatever to do with:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to draft a plan organizing the Order of Past Master, for the purpose of conferring the Past Master's Degree on Masters elect of Lodges, and that the committee report to next Convocation of this Grand Chapter."

There is no Report on Correspondence.

The town of Grenada, at which the Annual Convocation was held, as well as many other points in this State, was visited, during the past summer, by the terrible pestilence Yellow Fever, among the victims we regret to learn, was the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, Comp. H. W. WALTER, who died at Holly Springs, in September last.

Comp. JOHN S. JONES, G.: H.: P.: J. L. POWER, G.: Secretary.

MINNESOTA, 1878.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation was held at the City of St. Paul, October 8th. M.: E.: Comp. RICHARD J. MARVIN, G.: H.: Priest. 21 Chapters represented.

This Grand Chapter closed its labors Tuesday Evening, October 8th, and on Saturday night, 19th October, we have the printed proceedings before us for review (11 days), just think of it; for such promptness, Grand Secretary PIERSON, should be voted a jewel, or other suitable testimonial, (we believe that is the correct language now). We vote aye.

The Grand High Priest announced, in his address, the death of P.: G.: H.: P.: Companion J. H. McKENNY.

After speaking of the "ancient landmarks" governing Craft Masonry, he continues:

"Now our institution is an entirely different thing in these respects, for ours is a modern system, scarcely a century old, and made up of parts of other rites which never had any connection with the old system, therefore our constitutions are the fundamental law, and there is nothing behind them. In view of these facts and many other reasons, we should not be governed whatever by the practice that prevails in Grand Lodges, for as I think I have shown we must be controlled by our own constitution and regulations only, and when these fail to throw any light on some vexed point, then by the common law of Masonry, which is simply the application of the abstract principles of justice and right, that do not interfere with the written law.

"Again, claiming your indulgence for a short time, I desire to advert to a matter which I deem of some importance in securing a greater interest in our chapters on the part of its members, and thereby show, if I can, the practical utility of such an organization as ours.

"The question is often asked by those who have attained to all, or nearly all, the degrees conferred in the various Masonic bodies, "Of what practical use is chapter Masonry?" The lodge, say they, seems to possess and inculcate a complete system of pure morality, sufficient for the well-being of its votaries in this life. It provides for succor and assistance in time of distress; it soothes and ministers in sickness, and secures to its members respectful and decent burial. It also provides for the widow and orphan, and therefore what more can be asked.

"On the other hand the chapter lacks some of these beneficent provisions, and adds nothing to the ethics of the ancient system.

"Taking my position at the second veil, where the purple is 'formed of a due admixture of blue and scarlet,' I will endeavor to show, as briefly as I can, the importance and great value of Royal Arch Masonry, in conjunction with the preceding and qualifying teachings of the blue lodge.

"Like the lodge, we require of our candidates an acknowledgment or recognition of an intelligent and rational Monotheism, with the unity and inter-dependence of the race, as a basis for the superstructure of duty in human conduct. The line of duty as taught in the lodge, is represented and illustrated by the 'three steps, emblematical of the three principal stages of human life.' To this is added the doctrine of the immortality of the soul, and these comprise the chief points of the excellency of symbolical Masonry. Now we go further, for in the teachings of the M.: E.: and R.: A.: degrees we complete that which the lodge has left unfinished, and furnish additional

motives for exemplary conduct drawn from this life and that which is to come. In addition, also, we continue that intellectual and moral development which a human being may make in his progress from the cradle to the grave into the future state, and as a man may be wiser and better in old age than in youth, so he may be wiser, better and happier, and so continue in an increasing ratio throughout the vast cycle of eternity. This I believe to be the true teaching of the symbolism of the building of the second temple, and in its contemplation we discover a sublimity and grandeur full of dignity and encouragement to a soul struggling to penetrate the future, involved, as he may become, in the vagaries and uncertainties of metaphysical science. My companions, should we understand and teach all that is implied in this beautiful and inspiring system of ours, and the influence extended to others, we might hope to reach not a few who are now casting loose from the old fashioned restraints formerly imposed upon men, and who are drifting away into atheism and materialism."

We are much pleased with the sentiments in the above, but why should we *not* be governed "by the practice that prevails in the Grand Lodge?" The teachings of the Chapter degrees are a continuation and the consummation of those taught by the Lodge. As he correctly remarks "the M.: E.: and the R.: A.: degrees, completes that which the Lodge left unfinished. And if this be so, why will not the same law answer for both?"

The Grand Secretary, Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON, again presents the Report on Correspondence. He reviews the proceedings of 40 Grand Chapters, extracting very judiciously but gives comparatively few of his own opinions; this is to be regretted, for Companion PIERSON is justly regarded as one of the war horses of the Corps reportorial, and his opinions on Masonic subjects have great weight, and in this regard he is inconsistent too, for under Connecticut, he says:

"The opinions of reporters, who have ability and independence are desirable, no matter whether they embrace 'pet theories' or not. If they do, it gives other reporters an opportunity to compare. The rubbing together of two rough surfaces tends to polish both."

Under Indiana, noticing the remarks of Comp. HACKER, relative to the term "striking from the roll," he comments as follows:

"That beats us—here Comp. Hacker is a member in good standing, up head in our school—the old fogy—and yet says that he does not know what striking from the roll implies, &c.

"In this jurisdiction, each subordinate chapter is required to pay annually to the Grand Chapter a certain amount of 'head money,' so much for each member on the roll.

"If a member neglects to pay his dues for two years or more the subordinate chapter is allowed to drop the name from the roll, and is not thereafter chargeable with dues for such party.

"In Minnesota all the companions do not from birth until death reside in the same house, cultivate the same farm, or continue the same business in the same locality. 'They go West,' if anything occurs by which they suppose their condition may be improved. Oft times they may forget to

inform the chapter where they have gone or how long they intend to remain, if the dues are not paid at the end of two years, the names are dropped, stricken from the roll. We can conceive of no other *Masonic* course unless it is to continue the names on the roll and continue to pay Grand Chapter dues."

The rule that Comp. PIERSON mentions in the above, prevailed for many years in both the Lodge and Chapter, in this jurisdiction, but it was repealed in both bodies a few years since. We always considered it the proper regulation regarding non-payment of dues.

And, as he intimates, how else can you get rid of those who remove from the jurisdiction, except by striking their names from the rolls.

Of our jurisdiction, he says:

"Records found in the archives of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia establishes the fact that a Grand Royal Arch Chapter was organized at Baltimore, Md., June 24th, 1797.

"Query: Is not the Grand Chapter of Maryland the oldest in the world?"

"We remember, that how anxiously—long years ago, we looked for the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. We were something of a student in those days, read everything that we could get on the subject of Masonry, and Bro. McJilton's Reports on Foreign Correspondence just suited us, suppose that they did run up to four or five hundred pages, the information obtained amply repaid for the time expended in the perusal. Now comes Comp. Schultz, apologizing for the length of his report, of one hundred and sixty-six pages, and yet it embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-two Grand Bodies—those of Minnesota included. We have examined the report carefully, but cannot find where the apology is necessitated."

Quoting the opinion of your writer, under Illinois for 1876, that no one could preside in the absence of the first three officers, he says:

"A Grand Master by inherent right, and a Grand High Priest by constitutional provision, is authorized to preside over any lodge or chapter in his jurisdiction, superceding the presiding officer, if he has the right to preside in his presence, why not in his absence?"

"Comp. Schultz, you are right about that chapter U. D. seal matter."

We may be in error, but we think it would be decidedly improper for even the Grand Master, or Grand High Priest to open and preside at a *regular meeting*, held for the *dispatch* of the *regular business* in the absence of the three highest officers. We grant, that occasions may arise when it would be highly proper for either of those officers named to do so, but we hold that in such cases, they would, by so doing, virtually assume the Charter, as according to our notion no one but the first three officers of a Lodge or Chapter can be in legal possession of the Charter.

Comp. E. A. POTCHKISS, G. H. P. A. T. C. PIERSON, G. Sec'y and Chairman of Committee on Correspondence.

MISSOURI, 1878.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held in the City of St. Louis, October 10th. M.: E.: Comp. JOSEPH S. BROWN, G.: H.: Priest. 43 Chapters represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is merely a recital of his official acts. He granted a dispensation for the formation of one new Chapter, reports the surrender of the charter by another. After consulting with some of the Companions, he ordered a donation of two hundred dollars to the yellow fever sufferers of Mississippi, and which action was approved by the Grand Chapter. He announced the death of M.: E.: Comp. J. W. JORDAN, Grand High Priest of Arkansas.

The following action was had in reference to a transfer of the Council degrees:

“Resolved, FIRST. That by and with the consent of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Missouri, when obtained, the degrees of Royal and Select Master be received under the charge and control of the Grand Chapter.

“SECOND. That the degress of Royal and Select Master, be conferred upon all who are Royal Arch Masons at the date of the consummation of this plan, without charge.

“THIRD. That a committee of three be appointed by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, to act in conjunction with a similar committee to be appointed by the Grand Council to carry these recommendations into effect, and to definitely settle all the preliminaries for the transfer of the degrees of the Council to the Chapter.

“FOURTH. The arrangements entered into by this joint committee, when approved by the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and the M. I. Grand Master of the Grand Council, and published to the several Chapters and Councils, shall be the law of this jurisdiction until otherwise ordered.”

Comp. J. W. LUKE presented the Report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of all the Grand Chapters, except Nova Scotia.

Under Maine, we find the following:

“In the review of Maryland, by Comp. DERBY, he quotes the opinion of Companion SCHULTZ, that in the absence of the first three officers of a Masonic Body, it can not be opened for the dispatch of business.”

He then quotes the views of Comp. DERBY, which we have given under Maine, and says:

“We must correct Comp. DERBY so far as Missouri is concerned. No one in this jurisdiction, not even the Grand Master, can open a Lodge in the absence of the first three officers, except for the purpose of a funeral, when a Past Master may do so.”

We are glad to find that Missouri don't "flagrantly innovate" on this landmark if Maine does. Our opinion under review of Minnesota is also sustained by the regulation of this jurisdiction, that even the Grand Master cannot open a Lodge in the absence of the three first Officers.

He gives a resume of Grand High Priest ACHEY's address, and also of our proceedings for 1877.

Reviewing our report, he says:

"Under the head of California, he says of Companion WIGGIN: 'He believes actual Past Masters should have the degree re-conferred in the Chapter. Wrong again, Companion WIGGIN.' But turning over a few pages, we find under Canada: 'He (Companion ROBERTSON) favors *our* (Companion SCHULTZ') *resolution*, that actual Past Masters shall have the degree re-conferred in the Chapter.' In which of these extracts should the 'not' come in?"

The "our resolution" which we have italicised in the above should have read, the resolution of our Grand Chapter, with this correction, we hope that Comp. LUKE will perceive that we do *not* favor the re-conferring of the degree upon actual Past Masters.

He also says:

"We fully endorse these remarks: 'The rule that we adopt to find out *competent men*, is to elect as King or Scribe those whom we believe to be *such*, and during the term give them an opportunity to try their hand in the East. Should they prove incompetent, they are turned down, and the High Priest is retained until a competent successor is found.' This practice has been in vogue among our city Lodges here for many years, and has been wonderfully successful; but it would seem to be the case in Chapter Masonry, so far as legislation or usage can allow it, that 'Ignorance is bliss and 'tis folly to be wise.'"

He says our views in relation to the memorials presented to the General Grand Chapter by the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Mississippi are sensible, and quotes them in full.

He closes his review of our jurisdiction as follows:

"Eureka! At last, thanks to a rash assertion of Companion GEO. H. BURNHAM of Rhode Island, we have the true latitude and longitude of this Convocation, both worked out by dead reckoning. Reviewing Rhode Island, Companion SCHULTZ says of Companion BURNHAM.

"Under Maryland, he says: 'This Grand Chapter held its sixty-first Annual Convocation,' etc. We beg to inform him, and all whom it may concern, that from information recently obtained from an old record book, in possession of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, it is pretty well ascertained that the Grand Chapter of Maryland was organized in the year 1797, and that therefore, this is the Eightieth Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter."

Comp. DANA of Vermont, on the subject of the Cryptic degrees, uses the following language:

"This mania for tinkering degrees is wholly inexplicable to us. We are utterly opposed to it, believing it creates a restlessness and uncertainty as to the condition and status of Masonry, which is subversive of all its best interests.

Upon which Comp. LUKE comments as follows:

"Is it not possible and more than probable that this tinkering the degrees by those who made this peculiarly American system of Capitular Masonry, is the disease under which we are laboring, and the fermentation now existing is caused by the natural efforts to be restored to the normal condition that existed before quacks began their work? If the disease can not be cured in any other way, let us have a consultation and use the knife freely to cut off all parts that are becoming gangrenous, if thereby the rest can be saved.

"Our old fogysm takes us in thought back to the time prior to all those improved improvements of degrees. The time is past for ideas to be spun out indefinitely in numerous sentences of loud sounding words; and however true, however ennobling, however well adapted to the formation of character and purity of life moral precepts may be in themselves, they may become totally ineffectual if covered up in profusion of verbiage, or frittered away in multifarious ceremonies, their meaning will have about as much effect as a handful of salt in a hogshhead of water. We have about tried the elasticity of our institution to all the tension it will bear, and it would be better to let it recover its strength by easing up the strain. 'Cur-tail' is our motto.

We much regret to notice his retirement from this field of labor.

We quote the following from his "closing remarks: "

"When the report for 1877 was being prepared our jurisdiction was under a dark cloud of a great bereavement, which extended itself wherever the name of Comp. Geo. Frank Gouley was known. It was not possible but that all thoughts, written or unwritten, should be in consonance with the deep shadow of the prevailing sorrow. Did we even desire to forget, the many tokens of affection and kind expressions of sympathy with the Fraternity in Missouri, which the proceedings of other Grand jurisdictions contain, would keep fresh in our memory the untimely death of him who for many years so effectually wielded the pen in preparing these reports.

"On behalf of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, we would return our sincere thanks to our sister Grand Chapters, and to our Companions of the reportorial corps, for their kind words of condolence.

"By the merciful Providence of the Great I AM, time with its healing wings soothes the pangs of recent sorrows, but as wave succeeds wave on the restless ocean, so at short intervals, sorrows and misfortunes follow one another on the stream of human life, at times reaching such a magnitude among communities as to elicit the sympathies of the civilized world.

"Through one of these crises some of our sister jurisdictions are yet passing. During the preparation of a large part of this Report the pestilence in the South has increased until it has become a national calamity.

"Dark as the clouds are which hang over the South they reflect more brilliant hues than did ever a Western sunset, from the golden light of fraternal sympathy which has poured forth from all other sections of the country assistance of all kinds, which has been gratefully accepted. The present era may be marked by prominent features of fraud, corruption and dishonesty, social and political, but the great heart of the people is still sound at the core.

"Where distress is of such general nature, individual sufferings are to a great extent lost sight of. Among the hundreds of those brave ones who in their devotion to the care of the sick have died of the pestilence from which they were endeavoring to save others, are numbered many of our Companions, some of them prominent members of the Craft.

"When the future historian makes up his record, the names of those who became martyrs in the cause of humanity may not appear, but somewhere, though invisible to the eyes of men, they are inscribed in letters of gold, and their epitaph will be: 'Died on the field of Honor.'

"The following verses, selected from several written by a lady of this city, to the memory of a member of the Howards, are appropriate to all, and we take the liberty of inserting them:

"The beautiful South is a land of death,
Where the shadows darken the sun;
And the moans of the dying are heard in the night
When the deeds of the day are done.

"The sunlight falls with a dreary gleam
On the cities where ruin is spread,
And the rain beats down with a mournful sound
On the graves of the silent dead.

"Yet high in the heavens a hand is stretched,
That treasures the deeds of love;
And the lives gone out in the darkness below
Are wrapped in the glory above.

"The North bends down in her icy pride
And kisses the land of the sun;
Love joins them both in a flood of tears,
And the glory of peace is won.

"The hand that is dyed in a brother's blood
Now eases that brother's pain,
And the hearts that in life were driven apart
In death are united again.

"Then why should we sorrow?—our God is love,
And lives are not lived in vain;
Bright hope still shines like a star of night
In the shadow of death and pain."

Comp. NOAH M. GIVAN, G.: H.: P.: WM. H. MAYO, G.: Secretary
and Chairman Committee of Correspondence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1877.

The Annual Convocation was held in the City of Concord, May 15th.
M.: E.: Comp. ANDREW J. THOMPSON, G.: H.: P.: 18 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest announced the death of Comp. EDWARD W.
HARRINGTON, P.: G.: H.: Priest.

We give the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest:

"A general view of the present of Capitular Masonry, in this State, furnishes the pleasing picture of a sufficiently large membership, selected from among the most intelligent and worthy of our citizens, bound by the closest ties and fraternal sympathies, in promoting the advancement of the principles of Masonry. Those principles need no explanation or defence.

They challenge the admiration of the world. They embody the cardinal virtues from which have been elaborated every system of morals taught by any religion or philosophy which has ever gained the respect of or benefited mankind. To be good men and true is the first lesson taught in Masonry. Every succeeding step but elaborates and defines this command. Taking man as he enters life, with infinite capabilities for good or evil, the principles of Masonry, with unerring accuracy, lead him toward his highest development in good. Step by step as he advances, the lessons and symbols used unfold perfect models of excellence for his rule of life, and those rules, thus symbolized, constitute the readiest and surest means of affecting his intelligence. It is object teaching applied to ethics; it is the Kindergarten of the moral world. Every subject in the world of matter has its analogue in the world of mind. The symbols used to teach the principles of Masonry seem to have been selected with more than human reason. As they constitute the fundamental agencies in art and science, so their moral application constitutes the highest principles of rectitude and justice. Their daily use in the ordinary avocations of life places before the initiate a constant reminder of the great lessons of rectitude taught in the various degrees he has passed. By no other means could these principles be better taught to all; to some in no other way."

The following, we think, is a good regulation :

"Resolved, That every petitioner for a new Chapter shall present a certificate from the Chapter of which he is a member that he is free from all charges and dues."

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. ALBERT S. WART. He reviews the proceedings of 37 Grand Chapters.

Under Iowa he expresses himself most sensibly on the colored question :

"As this question will probably never become one of practical moment in our own jurisdiction, perhaps we ought to content ourselves with a mere reference to it as one likely to affect the interests of the Order in other States of our Union. We cannot refrain from suggesting, however, that the solution of the question seems to us, on true Masonic principles, a very easy one. It is, for every Masonic jurisdiction, if there are such who have departed from it, to return at once to the true Masonic theory, that Freemasonry is universal, and that every man, regardless of nationality or color, who is freeborn, of good report, and well recommended, may knock at our portals and ask for Masonic light. The question, however, becomes a very different one, when a class of men, whether colored or otherwise, assume to establish Lodges and Chapters, Grand and subordinate, within the jurisdiction of regular Grand Masonic Bodies, without their sanction, and not submitting to their jurisdiction, and those Lodges and Chapters based on a distinctive rule, itself only applying to men of a certain class or color, and thus itself not universal. We feel free to say that in our view such bodies can never be recognized unless upon surrendering their distinct organizations and giving in their unqualified adhesion to the regularly constituted ruling bodies of the respective jurisdictions. It strikes us as more than doubtful whether any convention of delegates from the several Grand Lodges in the United States will ever prove of any avail in the settlement of this vexed question. There has, thus far, appeared very little disposition in this country to establish anything equivalent to a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and we do not believe there would be any greater inclination to accept as binding the conclusions of a Masonic Congress of Delegates upon a question which each jurisdiction is competent to settle

for itself. To our mind nothing could be more at war with the fundamental principle of Freemasonry than the recognition of *colored Lodges* or Chapters, as such. This would be at once to introduce into our Order the very distinction which many have long, and all ought, to deprecate. Neither color nor race should never be recognized as Masonically distinctive, and Lodges or Chapters can never consistently be organized with a view to any such. As all must profess a belief in the same God, so should all enter by the same portal, kneel at the same altar, and acknowledge allegiance to the same ruling power."

He gives Maryland for 1876, a brief but kindly notice.

1878.

The Sixtieth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Concord, May 15th. M.: E.: Comp. JOHN J. BELL, G.: H.: P.: 19 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest announces the death of Comp. JOHN ATHERTON HARRIS, P.: G.: H.: P.: and Grand Secretary, also the deaths of Comp. JONAS LIVINGSTON, P.: G.: H.: P.: and Comp. LOUIS WOODMAN, P.: G.: Scribe.

We notice that in this jurisdiction, at least, the Charter is required to be present to legally open a Chapter. The Grand High Priest in his address, on the subject, says:

"My attention was called a few months since to the fact that several Chapters whose warrants had been destroyed by fire, had continued to work without them. Generally they had obtained dispensations from the then Grand High Priest authorizing them to continue their work until the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, these of course expired with such convocations. In some instances the Grand Chapter directed new warrants or copies of the old to be issued to them, in some no action seems to be taken. However the law may be held elsewhere, in New Hampshire the law is and always has been that the warrant must be present to make the meeting legal."

He decided that:

"Expulsion or suspension from *Lodge membership* does not necessarily affect the Companion's standing in the Chapter."

We regard the term expulsion from "membership" wrong, suspension is bad enough.

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe severally made reports of official duties performed, and from which we learn peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

Comp. ALBERT S. WAIT again presents the Report on Correspondence, and in which he reviews the transactions of 35 Grand Chapters and the General Grand Chapter.

Under the District of Columbia, he notices—

“The fact of the discovery among the archives of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia ‘the original record book of a Royal Arch Encampment held in the city of Washington, in the years 1795 to 1799,’ which establishes the date of the original organization of the Grand Chapter of Maryland.”

He appears to favor the conferring of the degrees of the Chapter upon maimed brethren. Under Maine, he has the following on that subject:

“But after a candidate has once as a perfect man entered our Order and taken upon himself its obligations, we do not believe that there is any reason, Masonic or other, which should render subsequent misfortune a ground for debarring him from acceding to all its lights, or drinking at all its fountains.”

The degrees of the Lodge or Chapter may be *communicated* to one whose physical disabilities prevents a literal compliance with the forms and ceremonies, but it is utterly impossible to *confer* them upon such a person.

Comp. JOHN J. BELL, re-elected G.: H.: P.: GEORGE P. CLEAVES, G.: Sec’y. ALBERT S. WAIT, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

NEW YORK, 1878.

The Eighty-first Annual Convocation was held in the City of Albany, February 5th. M.: E.: Comp. GEORGE VAN VLIET, G.: H.: Priest. 188 Chapters represented.

From the admirable address of the Grand High Priest, we quote the following extracts:

“Have we, as Royal Arch Masons, profited by the lessons which the seasons have taught? That the bud, which in the spring puts forth its appearance, is nurtured by the summer heat until its strength and usefulness are fully developed, so that the autumn may gather and utilize its blessings before the winter with its icy hand can blot it out of existence, leaving nothing but fond recollections?

“Have we, as Royal Arch Masons, treasured and matured the first lessons we were taught on *tiled* floors, so that they now stand forth as living evidences that the impression was indelibly made, and that their influence is felt by those with whom we are brought in contact?

“Have we, by the aid of the additional refulgence which we saw and admired in the Chapter, been enabled like *workmen in the quarries*, to more fully discharge *our duties to God, our neighbor and ourselves*, so that in the autumn of our lives our work may be ready for *inspection*, and receive the approval of the *Grand Overseer’s square*? Then, when the icy messenger, Death, discharges us from further duties, we will leave in fond remembrance the *title of a workman that needeth not to be ashamed*.

“Companions, I cannot let the occasion pass without calling your attention to the fact, that the outer door of our subordinate bodies needs to be well guarded. Many of you, I doubt not, can recall instances where material of inferior quality has found its way into our midst, in order to

Comp. REES G. WILLIAMS delivered an address, alluding to the inability of the venerable Comp. EZRA S. BARNUM, P.: G.: H.: P.: to be present, by reason of age and sickness, and in which it is stated that Comp. BARNUM first entered the Grand Chapter fifty-five years ago.

A resolution was passed by the Grand Chapter tendering him "sympathy, sincere condolence and remembrance in this the time of his affliction." We regret to learn that this venerable Companion has since deceased.

Comp. DARLAS A. OGDEN, as usual, presents the Report on Correspondence. He reviews the transactions of 40 Grand Chapters, Maryland for 1876 and 1877, among the number, also the General Grand Chapter. The report contains one hundred and twenty-five pages of closely and well written matter.

Under review of District of Columbia, we notice the following:

"The Past Master's degree is an 'Ancient' degree, and has stood for a hundred years or more, and should not be wiped out so summarily by a simple resolution. It may have been abused and misunderstood, but rightly conferred it is a most useful degree, and one not easily forgotten; it makes its mark on the memory."

We fully agree with him, that "when rightly conferred it is a most useful degree." It is impossible for any one properly to preside over a Masonic body who has not acquired the knowledge that is intended to be conveyed by the reception of the Past Master's Degree; the lessons we were taught therein have never been forgotten.

He gives Maryland for 1876 and 1877, kind and fraternal notice: Under the former review, speaking of the address of Grand High Priest EMMONS, he says:

"He decided that on the death of the High Priest, and the permanent absence of the King, the Scribe was entitled to preside in the Chapter, and he declined to order an election for High Priest; and yet, in his decision, he intimates that he would interfere if he thought the Scribe was incompetent, &c. If he was right in his conclusion, that the Scribe succeeded of right to the chair, then that ends the question, and he would be foreclosed on the question of competency; that is a matter for the Chapter to settle, and not the Grand High Priest, unless brought to his notice directly on charges. The Grand Chapter approved the decision, and adopted a resolution fixing it as a future rule."

Quoting our opinion under review of Indiana, that the scribe, though calling upon a Past High Priest to preside (in his presence,) was alone responsible for all which may have been done. He comments as follows:

"We cannot subscribe to his reasonings or conclusions. The Scribe sitting in the Chapter as a private member, in no way exercising his official functions, would hardly give sanction to all that was done; if that were so,

then the most absurd as well as proper action would be made legal. If he did not occupy the chair, how could the Chapter be in his charge? That is stretching official power, dignity and authority a little too far. We guess our good Companion will change his mind by next year on this point."

Well, the year has come and is nearly gone, and yet we have seen no reason to change our mind. We contend, that if a High Priest, or any other member of the Council entitled to preside, calls another to the chair and sits by quietly, *he is responsible* for the doings of the officer called upon. Should he not approve, it is his duty to assume the gavel, failing to do which, the act becomes his own.

He deems it unsound and unsafe for the Past High Priests to cast the vote of the Chapter in the absence of the representatives. A Chapter whose dues have been paid, we think, should not be deprived of its vote, by reason of the absence of its representatives, provided the Past High Priests of said Chapter are present and can agree as to how the vote on any question shall be cast.

He still maintains that a Chapter demit should not be withheld from one against whom charges are pending in the Lodge, but he does not give any additional reasons for the faith that is in him.

Still quoting from our report, he says:

"He also tries to controvert our position, that a candidate for the degrees of the Chapter has a right to withdraw his petition before a ballot on it. The only reason that he assigns for denying the right is, that the petitioner might learn of unfavorable action, and withdraw and go elsewhere, and thus an unworthy member might get in. This does not seem to be a good reason; for the petitioner could not go elsewhere without permission from the Chapter. And is it not proper and the right of a freeman to take back his request, if he has changed his mind, or is displeased with what he has done, or even if he be sure that a rejection is certain? You certainly could not force a person to become a member if elected, and ought you to force him to be humiliated by a rejection, if he did not desire a vote or membership? We stand by the freeman's right, to change his purpose and go in peace."

We would ask, why could not the petitioner go elsewhere without the permission of the Chapter? We know of no regulation that would prevent him. We had supposed it was a well settled, and the universal practice of the fraternity, that a petition once before a Lodge or Chapter could not be withdrawn.

He appears not to favor the movement regarding the transfer of the Council Degrees to the Chapter.

Appended to the proceedings is another most able and interesting address from the Grand Chaplain, Comp. JAMES BRYON MURRY, on "Moses," which did we dare do so we would copy in full, as it is well worth reading.

In the appendix we notice that an association was formed Feb. 6, 1878, known as "the Social Union of Past Officers of the Grand Chapter of New York." The venerable JOHN N. LEWIS was elected President :

"Its objects are social and festive, historical and biographical—above all 'to keep bright the chain' of long friendship among its members. It is to meet annually in Albany, during the Convocation of the Grand Chapter."

Comp. DANIEL F. DAY, G.: H.: P.: CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, G.: Sec'y.

NEBRASKA, 1877.

The Eleventh Annual Convocation was held in the City of Omaha, December 19th. M.: E.: Comp. EDWIN F. WARREN, G.: H.: Priest. 9 Chapters represented.

We copy the following from the address of the Grand High Priest. We consider it a most remarkable case from beginning to end, including the opinion of our M.: E.: Comp. DRUMMOND :

"In the spring I received a communication in the nature of an appeal from the decision of Companion RICHARDSON, High Priest of Keystone Chapter, No. 2, of Nebraska City, refusing to receive the petition of Brother Samuel Bacon, a Master Mason in good standing, and a member of Western Star Lodge, No. 2, of Nebraska. Brother Bacon is a blind man, and was at the time superintendent of the Blind Asylum, located at Nebraska city ; he is a man of unimpeachable character, of unusual intelligence and learning. He has been blind *since he was about ten years of age*, receiving his degrees in an Iowa Lodge, with the sanction of some of our most conspicuous Masonic jurists. My own judgment was that he was ineligible, and that the conferring upon him of the degrees of Blue Masonry did not cure his defect, though I have no doubt that Brother Bacon would have received as much actual light, and as true an insight into the symbolism of the degrees, as many of those who had gone that way before him, and would have been pleased to welcome him within the veils.

"I referred the matter to M.: E.: Companion E. H. English, General Grand High Priest, and to M.: E.: Companion Josiah H. Drummond, P.: G.: G.: H.: P.: , and receiving from those eminent Masons contradictory opinions upon the case, I no longer wondered that I myself had hesitated in coming to a decision. The General Grand High Priest, however, having ruled him ineligible, I sustained the decision of the High Priest of the Chapter, and the petition stood rejected.

"This question coming up before the General Grand Chapter at its Convocation in Buffalo last summer, upon the report of the G.: G.: H.: P.: , his decision of the question was, without debate, affirmed.

"It is of course profitless to speculate how it was that Brother Bacon received, or could receive, the Master Mason degree ; that he has received it I know, as he is a member of the Lodge over which I preside ; but were it not that it is desirable to secure uniformity in our rules and regulations ; were it not that the maxim *stare decisis* should govern here as well as in courts of law, I should have felt inclined to let Brother Bacon's petition be received upon general principles. Companion Drummond wrote me as follows, and in his views I concur :

“I know of no law (save local regulation in a few jurisdictions) in reference to the *physical qualifications* of candidates for Royal Arch Masonry. I have no doubt that in the olden time the idea of such a law was never considered, or if it was, the conclusion was that there was no need of one, inasmuch as only Master Masons (who had clearly passed the test) could be candidates.

“With this understanding of the law, my views have been *very liberal* toward candidates for the Chapter; and I have been inclined to receive any Master Mason. I had the question presented to me when I was G. : H. : P. : , whether a Master Mason who had lost a leg, but walked with an artificial one without a cane, could be admitted, and I replied that I knew of no law against it. I should make the same reply in the case you put, and I say frankly that if I were a member of the Chapter I should vote to admit him.”

In reference to the Cryptic degrees, he says:

“My own judgment upon this important subject is that in view of the refusal of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to make the degrees of Cryptic Masonry a prerequisite to Knighthood, it would be eminently proper for the several Grand Chapters to assume jurisdiction of those degrees, *provided*, the Grand Councils of such jurisdictions should first make the request. Otherwise, in many States, it seems to me from observation and correspondence, it is but a question of time when these degrees, beautiful and instructive as they are, will cease to be conferred by any recognized authority. Surely their being conferred in a Chapter would work no harm to the Chapter, the only thing to be guarded and provided against would be the danger that those who thus received the degrees might, in some jurisdictions, be considered ‘*clandestine*.’”

The Royal and Select Masons of this jurisdiction, for over sixty years, were considered “clandestine,” or at least irregular, by jurisdictions in which regular Councils existed, but that fact did not trouble them much, they were in possession of the information contained in the degrees,—and that was about all they cared for.

A Companion made inquiry as follows:

“How many votes is a Companion entitled to who is a Past High Priest, a Past Deputy Grand High Priest, a Past Grand High Priest, and also a life member of this Grand Chapter?

“On which query the Grand High Priest made the following decision:

“The Companion in the case supposed will be entitled to cast one vote as Past High Priest, one vote as Past Grand High Priest, and one vote as a life member of this Grand Chapter. He is entitled to one vote in virtue of the highest official position he has held through the suffrages of his Companions in this Grand Chapter, and one by virtue of his office as Past High Priest, an honor not conferred by this body.

“In no event, however, is he entitled to cast more than three votes.”

Is not this plurality of votes in violation of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter?

Among the compiled decisions we notice the following, the italics are ours:

"The charter of a Chapter is confided exclusively to its Council. A High Priest carries with him, after the expiration of his term of office, no prerogatives by virtue thereof, save the honor. A Past High Priest cannot congregate a Chapter, nor even preside therein when congregated, except through the courtesy of the Council, according to seniority, who may be present. [1872.]

The above corroborates the views taken by us under review of Maine, and elsewhere in this report, that unless one of the first three officers be present, a Chapter can not be opened, and also that "the charter is confided exclusively" to those officers.

There is no Report on Correspondence, nor does there appear any Reports from the Grand Representatives as appeared last year. We hope our Companions of Nebraska may ere long follow the practice of her sister jurisdictions, and present a regular Report on Correspondence, especially in view of the fact that she has her "WHEELER" so able to perform the duty.

The proceedings are gotten up in good style, and embellished with the portrait of the Grand High Priest, Comp. EDWIN F. WARREN, who was re-elected, and Comp. WM. R. BOWEN, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEVADA, 1878.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Virginia, June 10th. M. E. Comp. DEWITT C. MCKENNEY, G. H. Priest. 3 Chapters represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest is quite brief the transactions are of local interest, but were conducted in a thorough business-like manner.

Comp. JOHN D. HAMMOND presented a very sprightly Report, of 41 pages, on Correspondence, and commences in this wise :

"Traveling, once upon a time, along the eastern slope of the Sierras, not far from the famed Yosemite, we suddenly came upon a band of Piute squaws busily engaged in digging, and preparing taboose. The method of separation especially attracted our attention. The tubers, about the size of a small filbert, mixed with soil, gravel, and sticks, were first thrown into a shallow basket, and thoroughly shaken by the attendant Native American—not a Know-Nothing—then, by a dexterous, though indescribable motion the light grass roots and sticks were thrown one way, the taboose another, while the soil and gravel took still another direction. Some of the ambitious ones of our party attempted the operation, which seemed simple enough, when the more they shook the worse the jumble became. Taboose, soil, and sticks went out of the basket more thoroughly mixed than when they went in, to the no small amusement of Mrs. Lo and her numerous progeny.

"As we begin this report, over five thousand pages of wit and wisdom, and, alas! that which is neither wit nor wisdom, lie carelessly scattered about our study table patiently awaiting the sifting of our inexperienced hand. Well! if any looker-on thinks that there is no work in it, that it

requires no knack which is above mere work, he has our full permission to try it for himself. We know that the considerate companions of this jurisdiction will not expect too much under the circumstances, and let the good tribe of Corresponding Injuns spare the rod even if they have to spoil the child. BOBBY BURNS got badly stuck once in writing a letter, and his escape shall be our motto without further words:

“‘But how the subject-theme may gang,
Let time and chance determine;
Perhaps it may turn out a sang,
Perhaps turn out a sermon.’”

We are pleased to find that he also favors the restoration of one dropped or suspended for non-payment of dues, simply upon payment of the same.

He does not believe in “objection,” after clear ballot, and the reception of one or more degrees.

Nor in the doctrine of visitors voting.

Nor in perpetual jurisdiction; on which latter subject, under review of Maine, he has the following:

“Now we have struck it. This *is* perpetual, everlasting, aëonic, forever-and-forever, amen, jurisdiction! genuine and simon pure, in the original package, J. H. D.—very like our own—blown in the glass. Never fear about our *argufying* on *that* doctrine. The water is altogether too deep for little fishes; let the whales fight it out, and welcome, while we amuse ourselves with the Five Points of CALVIN, Apostolic Succession, or something else that is easy in comparison. But just tell us—no, never mind, you needn’t either.”

Under review of Maryland for 1877, quoting our disapproval of the regulation of Nevada, which declares that any Royal Arch Mason who shall not affiliate after six months residence in the jurisdiction, shall be deemed unworthy of Masonic consideration, and also be denied all rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, he says:

“We have no hesitation in saying that Companion SCHULTZ is entirely mistaken. Equal and exact justice is certainly *not* against the spirit of Masonry. Has a Mason rights; he has duties as well. Nevada simply says that when he becomes derelict in duty, he forfeits something of right. Masonry is a *Fraternity* and not an “Order,” and fraternity has its burdens as well as its benefits. *Free* Masonry, like free religion, is a delusion and a snare. One may ‘speak with the tongues of men and of angels,’ may even ‘*understand all mysteries*,’ yet if he have not charity—helpfulness—he is as ‘sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal,’ or, more forcefully still, ‘nothing.’”

Of course it is possible that we *may* be “mistaken” in our views upon this subject, but we think we are not. There is no doubt whatever that formerly, at least, membership in Lodge or Chapter was a voluntary matter altogether, and the very form of the petitions of to-day still carries out this idea. The “mysteries” of Freemasonry are petitioned for, not membership

in a Lodge. It is true a promise of obedience to the by-laws of the Lodge or Chapter of which the petitioner *may become* a member, is exacted, but no promise is required that he will continue a member thereof.

Under Rhode Island, quoting from the Report on Correspondence, that

"In the Grand Lodge of England the office the of Grand Master does not disqualify him from being Master of a Lodge. The Prince of Wales is Master of his own Lodge."

He comments:

"Nevertheless, we are inclined to side with the former view. Any appellate authority ought to be entirely free from entanglements that may possibly lead to bias: again, the *dignity* of the superior office would be brought down to a level with the inferior one. We have great respect for a man who magnifies his office. Which leads us to say, although it may be a little off from the text, that no one has a right to preside over the 'Sons of Light,' unless he has the dress and deportment of a gentleman. *Slouchiness* ought not to be tolerated in the Council. *Otium* is all well enough, but let us have it *cum dignitate* in a presiding officer."

We concur in the above, including the remarks "*off from the text.*"

He agrees in the doctrine of Comp. OGDEN "that an applicant for the degrees should have permission to withdraw his petition." If this practice prevailed there would be no use whatever for the black balls.

Comp. PHILIP SELDNER, G.: H.: P.: JOHN D. HAMMOND, G.: Sec'y, and Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1878.

The Thirtieth Annual Convocation was held in the town of Winston, June 4th. M.: E.: Comp. CHARLES W. ALEXANDER, G.: H.: Priest. 13 Chapters represented.

The following, from the Annual Address of the Grand High Priest seems to indicate that he gives greater antiquity to our institution than Comp. PARVIN and some others:

"Since its organization in the days of Solomon the history of the Order has been identified with the history of civilization. The great ecclesiastical structures with which the whole of Europe is studded, owe their grace and beauty to the skill of our elder brethren, and stand imperishable monuments of their industry and genius.

"During the darkness and gloom of the middle ages the lights of knowledge and learning were kept burning in the Lodges of Freemasonry and the knowledge of many an important truth in science and art was, by their care and fidelity, preserved, which would otherwise have been lost to the world; and, on the coming of brighter days, our noble Order shone forth as the propagator of science and learning, and diffused the rays of enlightenment among the benighted nations, ever true to her principles she never

allied herself with schisms, with rebellion or superstition, but, in public and private, taught her disciples, as she continues to teach them to-day, submission to the laws, brotherhood to their fellow-man, and reverential awe for the great Being in whose name they meet and work."

Comp. JAMES SOUTHGATE, after an absence of a year, appears again with an interesting Report of one hundred pages on Correspondence.

He too takes issue with Comp. WIGGIN on the powers of bodies U. D., on which subject he says:

"The Grand High Priest of Iowa, in ruling that a Chapter U. D. can affiliate members, and you, in setting forth the idea, in addition to this, that members can not only be affiliated but discharged with dimits, advocate entirely new doctrines. A Chapter U. D. has only the right to make masons, and by many eminent masonic jurists this right even is denied. Did you ever read a dispensation to form a new Chapter, Companion? If so, does it state that this power to affiliate *members* is delegated? We trow not. It is very clear that until a Chapter is *constituted* it cannot entertain a petition for membership, and a Chapter U. D. is not a constituted body unless its officers have been installed, and that is something unheard of in this part of the country, and we cannot see how the Grand Chapter of Iowa ever swallowed such an unsavory doctrine as that just alluded to, and it also seems strange to us that our learned Companion should go further in this unorthodox teaching."

And he takes issue also with the same Companion on the previous service question, speaking of which subject, under review of District of Columbia, he says:

"We think Comp. WIGGIN is evidently at fault in the matter. If that is not a landmark, we have none."

And so say we, if this be not a 'landmark,' then there is none.

He goes for Comp. DRUMMOND on the physical and also on the previous service questions. We are much pleased to have so ably an ally as Comp. SOUTHGATE on these two questions. Under review of Maine, he says:

"How Companions can come to the deliberate conclusion that a man not qualified to be made an entered apprentice, can go through with the ceremonies of the Chapter degrees, is beyond our ken. We maintain the reason is sound and the authority good. Why is there not a separate system of common law for the government of the Chapter, as there is for the symbolic degrees? Simply, we answer, because by common consent the Code for the one will do for the other, and rightly so—Blue Lodge Masonry being the foundation of Capitular Masonry, as the Companion admits just above, when he says, 'It seems to us that the second or higher story of a house can stand in its place after the first story has been taken away from under it, as well as a man can be a Royal Arch Mason after he has ceased to be a Master Mason.' If that doctrine be true, (and we accept it as such) how intimate must be the relation between the two orders of masonry. Now if a man must have certain qualifications to enter the first story, it is preposterous to say that he need not have those same qualifications to enter the second story. It may be asked, but suppose after he enters below, he is unfortunate and loses a foot or an arm? We answer, he

must remain below, for the same reason that if he had been so maimed at first he could never have entered. The authority, then, is found in the oldest regulations, and if not a landmark, it has been adhered to from time immemorial, that a man must be sound in body and mind before he can pass our portals.

"Under the head of District of Columbia, we find our Companion leaving the established usage which has always obtained in ancient craft masonry, viz: 'That to be Master one must have served as Warden,' and advocating the doctrine that a High Priest can be taken from the floor, though never having served as King or Scribe, and says he can find no law to require such qualification for High Priest. We refer you again, Companion, to the common law which governs both Lodge and Chapter."

He gives a synopsis of our proceedings for 1877. Noticing the fact that we have discovered the date of the organization of our Grand Chapter, he says:

"The Companions of Maryland will now be able to celebrate their centennial, seventeen years earlier."

He flatters us much by saying our report "is one of the best on his table," and further says:

"Comp. SCULTZ makes free use of scissors, if we must judge by the frequent extracts seen as we pass from page to page of his report. He expresses himself freely in regard to most matters, and it is, therefore, not difficult to find where he stands on many important questions. He thinks one must have served as King or Scribe before he can be High Priest. He does not believe an officer has the right to resign. We agree. He don't see the necessity of a ballot, in case objection is made to advancement. He favors the right of visitors to vote, and under the head of Canada, in answer to the opposite view, he says."

He then quotes our remarks on that subject under Canada, commenting as follows:

"We do not allow in this Grand Jurisdiction a ballot to be taken in a Lodge unless *seven* members are present, and if your seventh man had been present in the Lodge above alluded to, he might have cast a black ball. Should a visitor be present who knows aught against the petitioner, he should, in duty bound, go to the Grand High Priest and state his objection, but never should he be allowed to vote."

Suppose, Comp. SOUTHWATE, that the "visitor" or visitors did go to the presiding officer as well as to the members, and stated to them their objections, and notwithstanding which, the members present elected the applicant. Don't you think that in such a case at *least*, visitors should have had the right of voting?

We had marked much more to notice in this very interesting report, but we can dwell no longer, much as we should like to do so.

Comp. CHARLES W. ALEXANDER, re-elected G.: H.: Priest. Comp. DONALD W. BLAIN, re-elected G.: Secretary.

NEW JERSEY, 1878.

The Twenty-second Convocation of this Grand Chapter, was held at the City of Trenton, Sept. last, but the printed proceedings have not yet come to hand. We have received, however, through the kindness of R. E. Comp. GEO. B. EDWARDS, an advance copy of the Report on Correspondence, which was as usual from the pen of Comp. THOS. J. CORSON. We regret to learn that this most esteemed Companion has been quite ill, which fact doubtless accounts for the delay in the printing of the proceedings.

Under California, we find the following sensible remarks in reply to Comp. WIGGIN, who favors requiring the payment of dues during the time of suspension:

"To our mind, this is grossly unjust. The man is suspended—temporarily dead—from 'all the rights and privileges of Masonry,' and yet is required to bear its burdens. Why should he pay? During suspension he is debarred from *receiving* anything, and it is unjust and dishonest to require him to *contribute* anything. If he is *out* of the Lodge or Chapter, even for a definite time, the Lodge or Chapter, during that time, certainly has no claim on him. How can you require a man to pay dues to a Masonic body of which he is not a member? And certainly he is not a member during suspension. His membership has been taken away for a certain time, and he is, for that time, to all intents and purposes, dead. Would you expect a corpse to pay its own funeral expenses? This is 'crowding the mourners' rather sharply."

Under Indiana he gives three pages *plain talk* to those who think Reporters on Correspondence should not receive compensation, and from which we extract the following:

"It seems to us that some of those who do their work gratuitously, love to find fault with those who receive compensation, in order that they may advertise and set forth their own most high and mighty deeds which they have done for their Brethren and Companions. They virtually say: Behold what great things we have done for our fellows! See what labor we have performed! Look what valuable gifts we have presented to our Brethren and Companions! And all this we have done for nothing, while such mercenary fellows as Daniel Sayre, of Alabama; Charles L. Wiggin, of California; J. H. Miles, of Illinois; W. B. Langridge, of Iowa; Joseph P. Horner, of Louisiana; J. H. Drummond, of Maine; T. J. Corson, of New Jersey; John W. Simons and Darius A. Ogden, of New York; T. McF. Patton, of Oregon; James A. Scott, of Virginia; J. W. Woodhull, of Wisconsin, and others, actually receive pay for work which is no better than ours. We thank God that we are not as these men! A generous gift loses its value when the donor boasts of it."

Comp. HACKER objected to the use of the phrase "beg leave to report," used by Committees in reporting to the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, to which Companion CORSON thus replies:

"Lord have mercy upon the ignorance of our venerable Companion! He doesn't understand the amenities of social life well enough to know that to 'beg leave' to do a thing is merely a polite phrase—a verbal conventionalism—such as 'yours truly' and 'your obedient servant' at the close of a letter, and numerous other expressions of polished society, which, like the curl in a pig's tail, are more for ornament than use."

He opens his review of our jurisdiction in the following manner:

"The large and handsome volume containing the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, which was held on the 13th and 14th of November last, was laid upon our table by the postman on December 19th—only a little more than a month from the time of meeting. Such promptness on the part of Grand Secretary Wentz is worthy of commendation. Let other Grand Secretaries follow this example.

"At the opening of the Grand Chapter, six of the Grand Officers were absent, and only eleven of the twenty-eight subordinate Chapters were represented. This is not a good showing. Our Maryland Companions can and ought to do better."

We must inform Comp. Corson that we had 13 Chapters not 28 on the rolls at our last Convocation. He will remember that the Chapters of the District of Columbia were at one time united with our jurisdiction, when they *went out from us*, no change was made in the numbering of our Chapters.

He quotes Grand High Priest ACHEY's remarks in regard to examination in the preceeding degrees, commenting upon them as follows:

"This is a subject well worthy the consideration of other Grand High Priests. The degrees of the Chapter are given in too quick succession; and before the candidate has digested the lessons taught in the Mark Master's degree, he is finished off as a complete Royal Arch Mason, with as little knowledge of what he should know well as a blooming Miss of sixteen has who has 'finished' her education at some fashionable boarding school—beg pardon, we should say 'seminary,' for 'schools' are things of the past, except in the obscure rural districts—whose hot-house mode of education turns out our daughters as 'finished,' when the majority of the graduates is still in blissful ignorance of the very rudiments of the subjects of which they claim to have acquired a complete knowledge."

He continues:

"The examination of certain musty old records has proven that the original Grand Chapter of Maryland was organized in 1797, instead of 1814; whereat our Maryland Companions are fairly overwhelmed with great joy.

"A considerable amount of business, solely of local interest, was harmoniously transacted, and all seems to be well in Maryland, except that our Fratres of that section need to waken up and show more life, vigor and energy."

It is not for us to say, whether the implied censure in the last paragraph is deserved or not.

He considers the doctrine of visitors voting "a most pernicious one." Under Canada he quotes the case mentioned by us, in support of our argument on that subject, and upon which he thus comments :

"Could not one at least of this 'number of visitors' have informed these poor 'six members' that the candidate was unworthy of election, instead of sitting still and sucking their thumbs, while in voiceless agony they saw the portals of our sacred temple thrown open for the admission of unhallowed feet. Why should such stupid dolts as these fellows—'number of visitors'—are unfit to be trusted with the ballot in their own Chapters. Come, come, my dear Schultz, when you want to illustrate an argument by an example, for your own sake as well as that of others, let your illustration strengthen rather than weaken your position, or else don't use any."

Why does our Companion Corson jump to the conclusion that these visitors were "stupid dolts," "sitting still and sucking their thumbs, &c." We can inform him that they did nothing of the sort, they did all in their power to prevent the election of that candidate, but their protests were unavailing, and not being allowed to vote the candidate was elected. We may have been unfortunate in "illustrating our argument," but we feel confident that if *all* the facts in the case referred to, could be open to public gaze it would furnish a strong argument on our side of this question.

He also says :

"Companion Schultz is 'surprised' that we should declare 'that a Companion is amenable to the Chapter of which he is a member, and to no other power.' Well, a good many others have been surprised on the same account. We know that the *law* is against us, but what of that? We are opposed to the law, and we still claim that our position is founded in right and justice."

"Come, Come, my dear" CORSON, when you find you have a bad case, why not own up at once, throw up the *sponge* and be done with it, you must know the position assumed by you on this question is entirely untenable. Now, let us "illustrate" a little, (and we hope we may be more fortunate in this than he appears to think we were in our illustration under review of Canada), if a Companion, a member of a Chapter for instance in Oregon, was residing or sojourning in your City of Trenton, should be guilty of un-masonic conduct, do you insist that it is absolutely required that he *must* be tried by the Chapter in Oregon? Could not, and we opine would not, your Chapter at Trenton prefer charges, try him, and if found guilty, expel him from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry? And would it not be consistent with "right and justice," that the accused should be tried at Trenton, where the offence was committed? where all the witnesses are on the spot to testify and not away off in Oregon, which could

only be done at an outlay of much time and money? Is not this the "*common law*," and is it not "*common sense*?"

Under Nebraska he too expresses surprise that a *blind* man should have been made a Mason, he says:

"An application was made to the Grand High Priest by one of the Chapters for permission to elect and confer the degrees upon a Master Mason who has been blind '*since he was about ten years of age*,' which he very properly refused to grant. It is stated that this Brother was made a Mason in an 'Iowa Lodge.' Will Brother Parvin or Langridge inform us whether it is customary for 'Iowa Lodges' to receive such material."

Under review of New York we have the following:

"Speaking of the visit of the General Grand Chapter to Niagara Falls, he says: 'In the evening the party returned, *too full of the grand and roaring Niagara*, and too weary in body to hold an evening session.' Did the Companions drink so much of the *water* (?) from Niagara Falls as to disqualify them from attending to business? When the General Grand Chapter met at Nashville, the members 'took something' which made them 'feel like—feel like—feel like,'—but we didn't know that Niagara *water* would produce a similar effect."

We fully expected to have received the transactions of this jurisdiction before we got through press, but it appears we are to be disappointed. As the above review was prepared we concluded to insert it—by so doing our Comp. Corson will not have to wait a year to know *our opinion of his opinions*.

OREGON, 1878.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Portland, June 7th. M.: E.: Comp. J. B. LEE, G.: H.: Priest. 10 Chapters represented.

In the very brief address of the Grand High Priest, it is stated, that he he was not called upon to render any decisions, nor were any questions of law or grievance asked.

Comp. T. McF. PATTON, again presents the Report on Correspondence.

In his opening, he says

"We notice, in the various proceedings which we have examined, a remarkable "*contraction in official decisions*." This seems to us as an indication of progress in the right direction. In fact, this "contraction" has been so great that we may not find sufficient to make our usual Compend respectable, even in appearance."

Notwithstanding which, his "Compend," is not only respectable in appearance, but it is also, most interesting and instructive.

Under review of District of Columbia, quoting Comp. LARNER's strictures on the visitor voting question, he says:

“‘*A rule known only to another body*,’ is good. We hope Comp. Larner may live long enough to learn that allowing visitors (Masons of their own jurisdiction) to vote on applications for degrees, is not introducing a rule known only to another body. Some of our correspondents argue strongly in favor of Universal Masonry and yet stenuously oppose the right or privilege of any Mason outside their own circle to have a voice in the admission of candidates.”

And further on, he says:

“We say it is not a new rule, but an old, well-defined rule, and should be recognized by every well governed Lodge or Chapter.”

Under Georgia, after giving Comp. LAWRENCE’S views on this same subject, he says:

“The foregoing is but a meagre portion of his argument. With such defenders as Companions Lawrence, Drummond, Schultz, Carr *et al*, we can rest in perfect security in view of our action in this matter. We feel confident that the question carefully considered will meet with approval and eventually become the rule in nearly every jurisdiction.”

And we feel confident, that if this question was carefully considered, with reference to the spirit and genus of our Institution, there could be no possible objection to the practice whatever.

Under Iowa, he thus sensibly comments on the opinion of Comp. SHAFER, that “an actual Past Master, should have the degree re-conferred upon him in the Chapter.”

“He undertakes to say that no actual Past Master has any sort of a right to be present at the conferring of the degree of Past Master in a Chapter. Well, who says they have? Again, he says the conferring the degree by a Lodge of Past Masters, does not confer the degree in the Lodge of actual Past Masters, and proceeds to assert that he must pay his fee and ‘be made over again.’ Yes, bound to make him eat, hungry or not.

“We are too obtuse to see it in this light. It is simply a waste of time, and seems to us absolutely absurd to *confer* a degree upon a candidate when he is already informed—as to its nature, character and teachings—better perhaps, than the officer attempting to confer it.”

He commences the review of our jurisdiction, in the following flattering manner:

“None of our guests this year present a more attractive appearance than our sister Mary-land. We welcome, gladly welcome her to our sanctum, and anticipate a pleasant interview with her and her attendant, Companion EDWARD T. SCHULTZ.”

He quotes from the address of Grand High Priest ACHEY, and notices that:

“A very fine tribute to the memory of FREDERICK WOODWORTH, late Grand Treasurer, was presented by Companion Gorgas.”

Reviewing our Report, he says: "We regard Comp. SCHULTZ, as one of our friends on the voting of visitors." He concurs, also, in the views expressed by us in reference to rotation and constant changes in officers; upon which subject, he says:

"A good, faithful officer should be retained just as long as possible; and if changes are required, the next in rank should be promoted, provided he has shown himself worthy of such promotion."

But says he cannot pat us on the back for the opinion, "that Lodge affiliation, should not be a pre-requisite for receiving the Chapter degrees."

He continues:

"Companion Schultz, commenting upon an amendment proposed in the Grand Chapter of Nevada, requiring those who have resided six months within the jurisdiction to affiliate or be denied the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason, says:

"This is forcing membership with a vengeance, and we have no hesitation in saying it is in violation of the whole spirit of Masonry.

"Well it is strange that an intelligent Companion with such correct ideas of Masonic law generally, as Companion S. has advanced, should declare this act of our Nevada Companions, 'A violation of the spirit of Masonry.'

"Good, reliable, faithful Masons require no regulations to compel them to do their duty. It is for the negligent, the careless, indifferent portion of the fraternity that such regulations are enacted; those who have crept into the Chapter by accident; who have the name, but not the spirit of Masonry within them; who are forever drawing nourishment from the body, and contributing nothing to its support. We think our Nevada Companions right in their action, and hope that our distinguished Companion may yet have the scales removed from his eyes that he may see this as other see it."

We are always open to conviction, but it will be difficult to *convict* us that our opinion on this subject is erroneous. While we admit that every Companion *ought* to belong to a Lodge and Chapter, yet as he entered therein voluntarily, so should he be allowed voluntarily to withdraw from either, when he deems his circumstances will not permit affiliation with both, by so doing of course he denies himself certain Lodge or Chapter privileges, but that all rights of Masonry therefor should be denied him, we can *never* agree too.

Quoting our remarks under New Jersey, in reference to the opinion of Comp. Corson that a Companion is only amenable to the Chapter of which he is a member, he says:

"The surprise to you was no greater than it was to ourself, when we read the Doctor's—(excuse us) Companion Corson's views on this question, and, we are still surprised at his remarkable coolness when cornered with the law."

Continuing his review of our report, says:

"He holds that a demit should be withheld from a Companion against whom charges are pending in the Lodge, and here he is right.

"Companion Ogden of New York having objected to Article 3, of our By-Laws, providing that a petition, after reference to a committee, cannot be withdrawn, but must go to a ballot, Companion Schultz comes manfully to our rescue.

"Hear him."

He then gives our views on that subject, under review of New York, and says "correct again, thanks." Our modesty will not permit us to quote quite *all* the complimentary things he says of us personally.

He strongly dissents from the right of objection anywhere, except prior to the conferring of the first degree, for which opinion, "we cannot pat *him* on the back."

Under Massachusetts he quotes Comp. DADMUS arguments against us on that subject, for our reply we must refer him to the review of that jurisdiction.

Comp. JOHN B. CONGLE, G. H. P.: R. P. EARHART, G. Secretary. THOS. McF. PATTON, Chairman Committee Correspondence.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1877.

Quarterly Communications were held in February, May, August and November, and the Annual was held in the City of Philadelphia, Dec. 27. M. E. Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER, G. H. Priest, but 20 Chapters represented out of 102 on the roster,

The transactions are devoid of all interest, at least to an outsider. We are informed the Grand High Priest "made a brief but pertinent address, which was received by the Grand Chapter with satisfaction," but the address does not appear in the printed proceedings.

Comp. EDWARD R. WORREL presented a Report on Correspondence of one hundred and twenty-four pages. It contains copious extracts from the addresses of the various Grand High Priests and from the Reports on Correspondence, but we fail to find a single comment of his own throughout the whole report.

Comp. ALFRED R. POTTER re-elected G. H. P.: JOHN THOMPSON re-elected G. Secretary.

QUEBEC, 1877.

The First Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the City of Montreal, Sept. 27th. M.: E.: Comp. J. H. GRAHAM, Grand Z.: Seven Chapters represented.

We quote the following extracts from the address of the Grand Z.:

"A hearty vote of thanks is due, and I am sure will be unanimously passed by you in acknowledgment of the wise and truly Masonic course pursued by the officers and companions of the mother Grand Chapter of Canada, anent the establishment,—the recognition,—and the graceful, fraternal welcome accorded to us as a sister Grand Body. The kindly expressions by the M. E., the first Grand Principal of the parent Grand Chapter, and their endorsement by the assembled Companions,—of their confidence in our preparedness for, and capability of supreme local self-government, and its successful administration,—are alike honorable to them, and gratifying to us, and will greatly tend to cement us in enduring friendship, and incite us to every laudable endeavour to carry on to complete success the erection of our grand superstructure, whose foundations have been so auspiciously laid.

"The recent successful establishment of the M. W., the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Quebec, began a new era of prosperity in that department of our craft within our jurisdiction, and the organization of this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, as a necessary and logical sequence of our former action, will be received with the highest satisfaction by that Grand Body, and every worthy and zealous Craftsman should, as circumstances permit, seek admission into our Chapters, and thereby attain to the perfection and consummation of Ancient Craft Freemasonry. From past success and present indications, we may also reasonably anticipate that the cognate and duly organized Orders of Knight Templars and the Ancient Rite, will, at no distant day, assume sovereign local self-government, and thus complete the full embodiment and final organization of our fraternity in all its great divisions on an equality of independence and supremacy with the sister Grand Bodies in the several Provinces, States, Kingdoms and Empires of the world."

The Grand Superintendents made their usual reports, and from which we judge the condition of the several Chapters under their supervision is satisfactory.

Comp. J. C. McMINN, presented a brief but a good Report on Correspondence, in the opening of which he says:

"We approach the duty imposed on us by the generous kindness and confidence of our M. E. Grand Z. with much fear and trembling. We trust that our youth and inexperience will plead, trumpet-tongued, against any very severe criticism, and that all crudeness observable in the arrangement and getting up of the different reports will be excused on these grounds."

We say to him that no apology was necessary unless it be for the small number (15) jurisdictions reviewed.

He is not a believer in "objection" after clear ballot, on which subject he gives not only his own views, but also, quotes quite freely those of Comps. ROBERTSON, CORSON and DADMUN on the same subject.

Under review of Maryland for 1876, he says :

"We can find no indication of the age of this Grand Chapter. Modesty we presume prevents our fair sister from favoring us with this information, and we believe it is not considered the correct thing to enquire a lady's age."

Companion McMINN has doubtless ere this received our proceedings for 1877, and will thereby notice that we have found our "old family bible, (spectacles and all)," as Comp. INNIS says, wherein is recorded the date of the formation of our Grand Chapter. We inform him, that unlike maidens of an *uncertain* age, we feel rather proud of ours.

He continues :

"We now turn with pleasure to Comp. Schultz' report on Foreign Correspondence. We assure him we fully sympathize with him in the trepidation with which he approaches the performance of the task imposed upon him. The array of distinguished names of the veteran reporters which he prints in a row of capitals is sufficient to shake the strongest spirit ; but take courage, Companion, and state your opinions with candor and with the support of a good conscience, and as your sweetest poet, Longfellow, some where sings :—

"The cares that inest the day
Shall fold up their tents like the Arabs
And as silently steal away,

"We would also tender to you good homely advice, 'set a stout heart to a stey brae.' If you do not understand the language stop the first Scotchman you happen to meet in the streets of Baltimore and he will translate it for you. As Scotchmen are dispersed over the face of the entire globe we presume you will have no difficulty in finding one in Baitimore.

"We find many opinions expressed by Companion Schultz with which we can cordially concur, and presume that in regard to masonry we are probably like himself, somewhat 'old fogyish.' We consider it essential to duly constitute a Lodge, as we have always been taught that the Charter should invariably be present. We also cling to the theory, and are still inclined to consider it an 'ancient landmark,' that no brother is eligible for the Master's chair unless he has duly served as a Warden, and we would be inclined to carry the idea into the Chapter. We also agree with him in his opinion that no installed officer of a Chapter can resign or demit during his term of office. Under California, after quoting from Comp. Wiggin in reference to the much disputed question of the effect of exclusion or suspension for non-payment of dues, we were delighted to read the following truly masonic words of Comp. Schultz :—

"It is a settled and well acknowledged principle, that no Mason can be deprived of any of the rights, privileges or benefits of masonry, without previously having had charges regularly preferred and proven against him.

"Sound constitutional doctrine, we mentally exclaimed, and consider ourselves safe and secure in such intelligent companionship. We found those remarks on page 74. We quietly continued our perusal of his very excellent report, and were soon absorbed in his friendly review of our mother Grand Chapter, Canada. We are suddenly startled into renewed interest by the following remarks found on page 80 ; commenting on our esteemed Comp. Henry Robertson's sound and constitutional views on the objection question, Comp. Schultz says, and, according to our limited comprehension, knocks his 'settled and acknowledged principle,' so lately advocated by him, into 'a cocked hat,' by these words :—

“ ‘He (Comp. Robertson) does not favor objections after ballot, unless good reasons be shown. We believe that a member of a Lodge or Chapter has the undoubted right to keep out any one, although elected to receive the degrees, and for any cause whatever; and no one has a right to question his motives. It is a matter for him and his conscience alone.’ ”

“Will Comp. Schultz please rise and explain the apparent contradiction in these two statements placed almost side by side in his report. Our opinions on this point are very strong and decided, and no argument we have yet seen brought against it have succeeded in changing our views. On this subject we have much pleasure in referring to the proceedings of Massachusetts, Canada and New Jersey, and especially to page 134 of the Companion's own report now under review, where he extracts from Comp. Corson a paragraph in which sets the whole matter in its true, proper and constitutional light.”

We think the two opinions quoted by him are perfectly reconcilable. We can't conceive how any one can imagine that an objection in the Chapter deprives a brother of any rights, privileges or benefits of which he is possessed. He asks for something which he has not yet received, if he is refused, what rights of his are invaded? We contend that neither the profane nor a brother have any rights in or to that which they have *not* received; they have the privilege to petition for the degrees, but until they are elected and *receive them*, they have no rights whatever therein.

A Companion, an Englishman however—not a “Scotchman,” explained to us the meaning of the advice so kindly tendered to us—in *scotch*.

We are pleased to notice that we are in accord with Comp. McMINN on many of the questions that are being discussed by writers on correspondence.

Comp. JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Grand Z.: JAMES ADDIE, Grand Registrar. JOHN T. McMINN, Grand Scribe E.: and Chairman of Committee on Correspondence.

RHODE ISLAND, 1878.

The Eightieth Annual Convocation was held March 12th. M.: E.: Comp. WILLIAM T. C. WARDELL, G.: H.: Priest. 10 Chapters represented.

A Special Convocation was held in January of the same year, “for the purpose of witnessing the exemplification of the work and the lectures.”

In his annual address the Grand High Priest says:

“I have personally visited all of the Chapters at their Annual Convocations; and although the amount of work performed is small, ‘owing to the continued stagnation in business,’ yet I find a goodly interest manifested by the Companions of the different Chapters which augurs well for their prosperity in the future.”

We notice in the proceedings the following customary announcement:

AT REFRESHMENT.

"The hour for dinner having arrived the Grand Stewards announce that the same is in waiting. The Grand Chapter is called from labor to refreshment and the Companions dine together according to the good old custom in these 'Plantations.'"

A custom we greatly approve. When the Chapters of the District of Columbia were united with those of our jurisdiction, it was the invariable custom at the Annual Convocations to dine or sup together; we regret the custom has been abandoned.

Fine engravings of P.: G.: H.: P.: Comp. WM. T. C. WARDELL and Comp. HENRY W. RUGG, appear in the printed proceedings.

The Report on Correspondence is signed by Comps. GEO. H. BURNHAM and GEO. M. CARPENTER, Jr.

Under review of Maryland for 1877, the committee say:

"Investigations into the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in Maryland develop the fact that a Grand Chapter was organized there June 24th, 1797, which was afterwards dissolved, then revived in 1804 and in 1808 it seems again to have gone out of existence. In view of this information, the Grand Secretary was directed to have the date on the seal of the Grand Chapter changed from 1814 to 1797. Query? is it the same Body, and what signifies the new date upon the seal."

As the Grand Chapter, which was revived in 1804 and again 1808, was doubtless composed of the same constituents as the body formed in 1797, we can see no reason to question its being the same body.

Reviewing our report, they say:

"Under California in commenting upon Companion WIGGIN's remarks regarding the practice in that State of permitting a Brother to be installed Master who has not served as Warden, he expresses surprise that 'even one jurisdiction permits so flagrant an innovation' and doubts if he can name another. He can add Rhode Island to his list; our opinion on that matter is elsewhere expressed, and as we have before said, we believe brains as desirable a qualification for office as luck. As to re-conferring the Past Master's Degree upon an actual Past Master, he believes it unnecessary, so do we. We hold that to administer the O. B. and communicate the modes of recognition are sufficient. The 'actual Past Master' has 'regularly passed the chair' and formerly only such could receive the Royal Arch Degree. The Degree of Past Master as conferred in Chapters is only a way of 'licking the d——l round the stump' anyhow. It is as every one knows, done to render Master Masons generally, eligible to receive the Royal Arch Degree, and has been so long a part of our system that it can not now be eradicated. Companion SCHULTZ in his report devotes liberal space to Rhode Island. He notices the fact of the installation of our Grand High Priest by the Grand Master of Masons, and thinks it a curious regulation that the Grand Master of this jurisdiction should be a permanent member of the Grand Chapter. It seems to us eminently proper that the highest office in Masonry should be thus recognized by the Grand Chapter, and only

curious to us that it is not so recognized elsewhere. He quotes with approval our remarks concerning the power of the Grand Master and Chapters U. D. and hauls us over the coals for speaking of the sixty-first Annual Convocation of his Grand Chapter, he assuring us that it is the eighty-first. We are willing to call it so if he insists upon it, but we somehow can't understand about its being the same Body, and freely confess that were it our case we would much prefer to date back only to the time since when the existence of the Body has been continuous, and its records complete. It is a matter of taste however."

It appears that Rhode Island *also* innovates on the previous service regulation. We can't add anything more to what we have already said under the reviews of California and Maine on the subject.

The regulation in regard to the privileges accorded by the Grand Chapter to the Grand Master of Masons, did, and does still appear to us a curious one. It may be all right and proper however.

The committee favor the transfer of the Council degrees. Under Vermont, reviewing the report of Comp. DANA, they have the following sound views upon that subject:

"He is not in favor of placing the Council Degrees under the jurisdiction of Chapters, and thinks it would create confusion in the Chapters as well as degrade the Cryptic Degrees. With this we cannot agree. No confusion exists so far as we are able to ascertain, in the jurisdictions wherein the Council degrees are conferred in Chapters; neither are the degrees degraded in any sense. It seems to us rather like putting them on a firm foundation, in the place where they properly belong, and insuring their preservation, besides avoiding the expense and time required to maintain what now seems to be a superfluous organization. It is evident that to unite with Chapters is the only plan whereby the Council Degrees can be made a prerequisite to receiving the Orders conferred in Commanderies. That we understand to be the object of a memorial presented to the Grand Encampment at its meeting at Cleveland. That attempt seemed to us to be injudicious; it failed and the Councils were thereby weakened, and in some jurisdictions it is only a question of time, and not a long time at that whether Councils shall become merged in Chapters, and the degrees conferred in them, or cease to be conferred at all.

The committee, we regret to say, appear not to favor the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island becoming a constituent of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. WM. N. ACKLEY, G. L. H. Priest. Comp. WM. R. GREENE, G. L. Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1878.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in the City of Charleston, February 12th. 23 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest in his annual address says:

"Death has not invaded our circle, and the chain of companionship remains unbroken. Throughout our jurisdiction the Royal Craft are at

peace, and, I trust, emulous only in good works. I am not aware of the existence of any cause of difference or disquietude among the Companions. With few exceptions, our Chapters are at work and are endeavoring, with commendable zeal and fidelity, to strengthen their foundations and repair the losses which have resulted from the financial and business depression of the past few years.

"During the past year no application has been made for a Dispensation to establish a new Chapter, nor has a single complaint been preferred."

Among the transactions we note the following, in the report of the Committee on the Grand High Priest's address:

"Your Committee notice with much interest the agitation of the question of blending the Royal and Select Master's Degrees with the Royal Arch. Inasmuch as the Grand Council is supreme in the control of the Royal and Select Master's Degrees, a proposition to merge the Cryptic with the Capitular Degrees ought to originate with it, but with the view of ascertaining the sense of this Grand Chapter and the Grand Council upon the subject, we would respectfully recommend that a committee of three be appointed by this Grand Chapter, of which the Grand High Priest shall be chairman, to communicate with the Grand Council in relation thereto; said committee to report at our next Annual Convocation."

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted and a Committee was appointed to confer with the Grand Council in regard to the transfer.

Comp. J. E. BURKE presented the Report on Correspondence.

We are gratified to notice that he is on *our* side on the "objection" question. Under Canada he has the following:

"Any argument that we have seen on this [that advocated by Comp. Robertson] side of the question, if carried out to its legitimate results, strikes at the secrecy of the ballot itself."

He gives a synopsis of the address of Grand High Priest EMMONS, without comment however.

Speaking of our report for 1876, he says:

"Thinks that a visitor in good standing may vote on the question, 'Shall this brother be made a Royal Arch Mason?'"

"That one black ball shall reject, is a stringent rule, though a good one, and we would not change it if we could; but if that may come from the whole Masonic world, we fear much dissention would be created in the Craft."

Does Comp. BURKE think that the "whole Masonic world," or that even *one* visitor would use the black ball, unless for cause?

Under New York, quoting a portion of Comp. OGDEN's views on the colored question, he thus comments:

"It seems to us that the prerequisite that a man should be "free born" is meaningless, if all men are free born, and how a natural right can be kept in abeyance, we do not understand. The exercise of a right may be prevented, but the right exists as fully and clearly as ever. But this is

apart from the main question. We do not know that there is any colored Lodge or Chapter in the United States holding charters from competent authority. The question then can only properly arise when the individual makes his application to the Lodge, and will solve itself in natural and legal way. But if the question is to come as to the recognition of bodies of so called masons in our midst, claiming rights granted in violation of our jurisdictional rights, with all due regard for the well being of that race, and charity and good will toward them, we cannot find a reason for applying different rules to them than we would to others in like situation."

Comp. W. G. DESAUSSEURE, G.: H.: P.: J. E. BURKE, G.: Sec'y, and
Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

TENNESSEE, 1877.

The Forty-ninth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Nashville, November 15th. R.: E.: Comp. JOHN S. PRIDE, Deputy G.: H.: P.: presiding. 73 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest Comp. H. M. AIKEN, was absent on account of sickness, his annual address was read by the Deputy, and from which we quote the following:

"No perplexing questions of law have been propounded, nor has any matter presented itself that has been the cause of the least anxiety or concern. Upon the contrary, we have enjoyed a year peculiarly free from disquieting or disturbing influences; and although the detailed reports are not before me, I am satisfied, from what I have learned, that this spirit of fraternity and good-will has been attended—as it ever must be—by a gratifying and encouraging degree of prosperity. In our Masonic bodies, as in the other relations of life, it is well for us to remember that "prosperity hath its perils no less than adversity." Let us not then become discouraged simply because our members may not have increased to an extent known in former years. Rather let us regard it as a matter for congratulation, and scan only the more closely the character of those who shall in the future apply for admission into our Chapters.

"We are told that, in the days of her pride and her power, none were permitted to enlarge the city of Rome, except those who had rendered some important service to the Empire.

"So let us suffer none to extend the circle of our Order except those who, by virtuous and upright lives, have bettered the condition of their country and their kind.

"Thus only can we advance the true interests of Masonry, and established it upon a basis that will withstand destruction and opposition, and carry it down through the ages an honoring and honored institution."

Past High Priests were made members of the Grand Chapter.

The Committee on jurisprudence reported the following which was adopted:

"That no Subordinate Chapter shall be opened unless one of the three principal officers be present."

Sound masonic doctrine—but some may call it old fogysm.

The salary of the Grand Secretary was, on his own motion, reduced from 750 to 500 dollars.

This Grand Chapter, since its last Convocation, has been called upon to mourn the death of two valuable members, Comps. A. J. WHEELER and ED. WORSHAM, victims of the yellow fever, both "fell at the post of duty with full knightly armor on."

A Committee was appointed to report at the next Annual Convocation in regard to the propriety of incorporating the Council degrees into Capitular Masonry.

No Report on Correspondence.

Comp. JOHN S. PRIDE, G.: H.: P.: JOHN FRIZZELL, G.: Secretary.

TEXAS, 1877.

The Twenty-eight Annual Convocation was held in the City of Houston, December 13th. M.: E.: Comp. W. F. SWAIN, G.: H.: Priest. 85 Chapters represented.

We quote the following from the Annual Address of the Grand High Priest:

"On this day, thirty-six years ago, the Royal Craft in Texas assembled in Convocation at the City of Austin, and organized the progenitor of this Grand Body. When we consider the peculiar political surroundings of the Texas Craftsmen at that early day, when society was like a volcanic eruption, the population as diverse as the builders of Babel, we stand in awe and admiration as we view that zealous little band in their feeble efforts to rear the first Royal Arch upon our broad, wild prairies. But their zeal was equal to the task; the columns were raised, the Book of Law was opened, and from their Lebanon and Zeredatha, gathered they the material for the Building; and to-day we sit down under the shadow thereof; to-day we present a roll of membership far exceeding the conception of those grand old spirits."

The Grand High Priest gives a long list of those who "have been summoned into the presence of the Master Overseer." He reports nine decisions all of which we consider sound, except that an officer may demit; in the case mentioned however, the officer was an appointed one.

He favors resuming connection with the General Grand Chapter, after reciting the history of the Grand Chapter and the causes that led to the severance, he concludes as follows:

"Companions, there is yet a link missing in that great chain of fraternal union. Shall we longer stand aloof? I leave the matter to your wise consideration, believing, however, that we should accept the proffered seat at that Grand Triennial Feast of Tabernacles, and let the Lone Star once more sparkle in the 'Royal Constellation.'"

The committee to whom the address was referred, recommended that this subject be referred to a committee of five Past High Priests, to report at the next Annual Convocation, and which was adopted. A large amount of routine business was transacted, the Grand Chapter having been in session five days.

Comp. ROBERT M. ELGIN presented a Report on Correspondence of 104 pages closely printed matter, many of the jurisdictions being reviewed for two years.

Under California, we notice the following:

"He thinks they have a *queer* way of voting in Maryland, where every Past High Priest is entitled to one vote, and the Chapter, though represented by three officers, has but one vote. We think they have a *queerer* way in California. But we will let Comp. WIGGIN explain it himself. He says:

"In this jurisdiction the Past High Priests of each Chapter have but one vote collectively, which is cast as a majority of them may determine. If there be but one Past High Priest, he casts the votes as he pleases; but if there be two, or any other even number, and they are equally divided in opinion, they play a game of 'Pedro' or 'Seven-Up' to decide the question. Each Chapter is entitled to four votes if it have a Past High Priest; if not, to but three. The High Priest, if the King and Scribe be absent, may cast all four votes, provided he be a Past High Priest. Or the votes may be cast by a Representative, elected by the Chapter at a stated meeting.

"Their plan of deciding the question has several advantages over that of throwing 'heads and tails.' In the latter the veriest ignoramus has an equal chance with the best informed Mason, while in the other the vote is cast according to the views of the most 'proficient' (player). Moreover, while it may be less expeditious, there is a *heap* more fun in it.

"We believe our plan is best, both in principle and practice. Each individual member, whether it be by virtue of being an officer, a past officer or a Past High Priest, is entitled to cast his individual vote. He may be entitled to that vote by more than one right; for instance, he may be a Past High Priest, and also an officer in the Grand Chapter, but still he is only entitled to his one personal vote. Each Chapter is entitled to three votes, which is cast by its Representative or Representatives, whether it be a proxy, or one, or all of its Representatives. Sometimes there are but two Representatives, and they disagree. In that case our California Companions have the advantage of us. Our cattle-driving Companions are generally so 'bull-headed' that neither will give away, and the vote is lost."

He gives a short review of the proceedings of Maryland for 1876, saying of us personally:

"He is a strenuous advocate for all the old customs, forms and quaint expressions used in the ceremonies. These things, so different from what exists in the modern societies, is one of the chiefest charms of the Order and must ever distinguish it as a peculiar institution so long as the ancient functions are maintained."

The Report of Comp. ELGIN is very full and interesting, but the most of the proceedings reviewed by him are for 1875 and 1876, and we have had our full say upon them.

Comp. WM. BRAMLETT, elected G.: H.: Priest. ROBT. M. BREWSTER, re-elected G.: Secretary. ROBT. M. ELGIN, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

VERMONT, 1877.

The Sixty-first Annual Convocation was held September 26th. M.: E.: Comp. EDWARD S. DANA, G.: H.: Priest. 20 Chapters represented.

We quote the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest:

"The Grand Chapter of Vermont is one of the oldest Grand Chapters in the country, having been organized on the 20th of December, 1804. Its career has been one to which we can always refer with pardonable pride, and it has left its impress upon the Masonic history and literature of the land in characters which will not soon be obliterated. It has been presided over by many who have been eminent in the varied walks of life, and who have graced the Executive Chamber of State, the highest honors of the Bench, the halls of Congress, and the legislative forum. The wise and prudent craftsmen who formed this Grand Body have, years since, passed to their long home and a merited reward. Their sturdy successors who, with Spartan courage and heroism, braved the whirlwind of persecution, of calumny and scorn, during the dark period from 1834 to 1849, have also nearly all passed from the duties of life to the fruition and joys of a higher existence. But one of those, who on the 18th of July, 1849, reorganized this Grand Body, is living, so far as I am advised; and I was happily surprised and much gratified a few days since in receiving a handsome photograph of this sole survivor of this noble band, PHILIP C. TUCKER, of Galveston, Texas, son of the distinguished Mason who for six years presided over this Grand Body, and who is himself Past Grand Master, Past Grand High Priest, and Past Grand Commander of the State of Texas, and for three years, 1849-51, was Grand Secretary of this Grand Body. Many of you will be glad to look on the shadow of so honored a son of the eminent craftsman, whose name is a household word in all our Masonic circles, and who was so widely known through the entire country.

"The touching lesson is imparted by contemplating these historical facts that we of to-day, though now in the prime and strength of manhood, are rapidly following in the footsteps of our predecessors. Of the twenty-one who have occupied this Chair, only those remain to us who have filled it during the last twelve years. Are we not thus strongly reminded that the present is the golden hour in which to stretch forth an earnest and decisive hand to achieve those beneficent results which shall do honor to ourselves and render deservedly illustrious our institution in the annals of men. Let us bind ourselves anew by a three-fold cord of love, and renew our allegiance to that sublime faith which shall lead us, like a beacon light, in the wholesome duty which we owe to our brethren and ourselves. Let us weary and faint not should we climb rugged steeps, or search through deep valleys, after those hidden and valued treasures which crown with blessing the labors of the true and just."

A committee was appointed to republish the proceedings from its organization in 1850.

Comp. J. M. POLAND, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, asked to be excused from longer service, and it was voted that he be excused and the Grand High Priest, Companion DANA, take his place. In presenting it Comp. DANA says:

“Companion J. Monroe Poland, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and who has for several years presented the Report, has notified me, at a late hour, that he will be unable, owing to protracted illness, to prepare the report for 1877; and, at his urgent request, I have undertaken, under unfavorable circumstances, to prepare a review of the transactions of our Sister Grand Bodies. I have been able to do it but imperfectly in the brief time allotted me, and with the printer waiting for copy; and trust you will overlook its many imperfections, and that the brethren of the guild will also regard it with that lenient charity which the peculiar circumstances seem to invoke.”

He reviews the proceedings of every Grand Chapter with which we are in correspondence, and in such an able manner, that no apology whatever was necessary.

We notice the following under review of Iowa:

“We do not at all agree with our friend, Judge WINSLOW, upon this point. We do not agree that the so-called ‘colored Masons’ of the country are the ‘subjects of an unjust and indefensible rule.’ The same rule applies in Masonry to white and black, to the king and the peasant. The point, and the only one in the case, is this: Are these ‘lodges’ and ‘chapters’ of ‘colored Masons’ legitimate—formed and constituted by proper and rightful authority? Or have they been formed without the permission and consent of any recognized and legal Masonic body, holding jurisdiction in the case.

“We understand and believe that no so-called ‘lodge’ or ‘chapter’ of colored Masons has ever been established in this country under the authority of any Grand Body which had jurisdiction over the territory occupied. We would deny them recognition therefore, not because their members are black, but for the same reason that we would not recognize a spurious ‘lodge’ of white men; simply and for the potent reason that we ought not and cannot consent to recognize any Masonic body improperly and clandestinely organized.”

Under Maine he says:

“Companion DRUMMOND complains in his report, as he did at Buffalo, of the time spent during the session of the General Grand Chapter in cultivating and enjoying the social amenities of the occasion. In this we believe our friend DRUMMOND in the wrong; the majority of the Companions at Buffalo, thought he was wrong; and so why will not our gifted friend yield gracefully to the wishes and feelings of his associates. We believe that the hours spent in forming and cementing friendships among distinguished members of the Craft, so widely scattered in their different homes, as usefully and profitably spent as those devoted to the ‘business’ of the session. We are not aware of any important ‘business’ that suffered thereby, or any that was left undone that needed attention. And most certainly Companion DRUMMOND had his full share of the time during business hours, and assuredly *he* should make no complaint.

"They have *four* Grand Chaplains in Maine, which shows that they think they need an unusual amount of praying for. We trust their reformation will be speedy and complete."

Pennsylvania can beat Maine altogether in the Grand Chaplain business, the Grand Chapter of that jurisdiction having no less than *fourteen*, we believe.

He gives Maryland for 1876 a kindly notice.

He thinks G.: H.: P.: EMMONS decided correctly in not ordering a new election in the case of Jerusalem Chapter. Still speaking of the address of Comp. EMMONS, he says :

"He calls attention to their system of voting, whereby every Past High Priest is entitled to one vote, and the three Representatives of a Chapter but one vote collectively. We think with Companion EMMONS that this needs correcting; and that every member of the Grand Chapter should have a vote."

And so do we think that every member of the Grand Chapter is entitled to a vote. And they cannot be deprived of it, without a violation of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter.

He continues :

He, (Companion EMMONS), declines a re-election after one year's service, which we regret, as he had filled this position, as well as other posts of duty, with credit to himself and to his State."

He says :

"Companion SCHULTZ agrees with DRUMMOND that visitors in lodges should be permitted to ballot on all applicants, because 'all have an interest in the matter as to who shall be granted fellowship in this great Brotherhood.' The same plea would give them the right to ballot for officers, or to vote upon any other proposition before the body. We think the plan would not promote harmony among the brethren, and would be productive of much more evil than good.

"Companion SCHULTZ gives the briefest of notices to Vermont (1875), and states that Companion EDWARD S. DAVIS was elected G.: H.: Priest. This will be *news* to the Grand Chapter of Vermont."

We can't see that "the same plea," to allow visitors to vote on application for the degrees, would give them the right to ballot for officers or vote on other propositions. Membership in the greater Brotherhood of Masonry is a separate and distinct matter altogether from that of membership in a particular Lodge or Chapter.

We regret the mistake in writing the name of Companion DANA, but that occurred before we had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with him.

Comp. EDWARD S. DANA, re-elected G.: H.: P.: W. H. S. WHITCOMB re-elected G.: Secretary.

VERMONT, 1878.

The Sixty-second Annual Convocation was held at the city of Burlington, September 25th. M.: E.: Comp. EDWARD S. DANA, G.: H.: Priest. 24 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest announces, in an appropriate manner, the deaths during the year of five companions, prominent members of the subordinate chapters.

He appointed thirteen Grand Representatives, among the number M.: E.: Comp. EMMONS for Maryland.

The following, among other resolutions, were passed regarding two venerable companions:

“Resolved, That it is a source of grateful satisfaction to the Grand Chapter of Vermont, that it is honored with the presence to-day of two venerable Companions, Leonard Sargeant, Past Grand Scribe, aged 85 years, and John B. Hollenbeck, Past Grand Secretary, aged 86, and we most cordially and heartily welcome them to this sixty-second Convocation, and trust that a kind Providence that has so long guarded them may vouchsafe many years to them, and that as the shadows of the evening of life gather around them, peace, happiness and strength may attend them, as do the love and respect of the Masons of Vermont.”

The Report on Correspondence was again presented by the Grand High Priest, Companion EDWARD S. DANA.

Under Delaware he says:

“Comp. MYNTER discovered a ‘mare’s nest’ at Buffalo, which we will wager that no one else saw, and imagined that the General Grand Chapter was about to assume ‘absolute power’ of an autocratic nature over the State Grand Chapters.

“As the General Grand Chapter is composed of the leading officers of the Grand Chapters, we imagine they will not make the General Grand Chapter oppressively ‘absolute’ unless they desire it.”

Companion DANA is one of the few writers who does not approve the movement in regard to transferring the Council degrees to the Chapters.

Under review of Maryland, he too notices the “six *pro tem* Grand Officers,” at the opening of our Grand Chapter, and which he says he is sorry to observe.

Speaking of the writer, he says:

“He thinks that there is no propriety in requiring a member of a Chapter to pay his dues to the Lodge in order to maintain his standing in the Chapter—no more reason than to ‘insist that the Companion shall be square on the books of his Odd Fellows Lodge.’

“This is singular reasoning for so intelligent a writer as Comp. SCHULTZ. Odd Fellowship has no connection with Masonry. But the relation of the Lodge to the Chapter is such that an unworthy member of a

Lodge should never be permitted to hold a seat in any higher Masonic body. Does Comp. SCHULTZ think a man unfit to sit with him in his Lodge a proper person for him to associate with in his Chapter? If so, we trust he has not many who agree with him."

Of course an *unworthy* member of a Lodge should not be permitted to "hold a seat in any higher Masonic body," but we cannot agree to the doctrine that because one fails to pay his dues, he *is thereby* unworthy of Masonic fellowship.

He thinks we will not have many followers in the doctrine "permitting visitors to vote." Well, perhaps not, nevertheless, that will not prevent us from believing that it is a correct Masonic doctrine.

He agrees with us in the following: Calls it "a wise and sensible conclusion."

"The system of rotation, and the constant changes of officers of Masonic bodies, is of the most hurtful character."

And also, "heartily concurs" with us, that

"It would be highly improper to transact at a special convocation business other than that for which it is called."

Under New York we notice the following:

"Comp. OGDEN thinks that as colored men have as much right to be Masons as white men, distinct and separate Lodges, Chapters and Commanderies must be provided for them.

"Indeed! but these men have not waited to be 'provided' for—they have set up so-styled Masonic bodies without 'leave or license' from any Masonic authority, and now demand recognition. With just as much reason might the Germans, or the Jews, establish Lodges and Chapters in New York without consent from the Grand Bodies of New York, and then ask Comp. OGDEN, and confreres to recognize them because 'they had as good a right to be Masons' as anybody."

"Is this the feast to which Comp. OGDEN invites us?"

"We decline, with thanks.

"We remember a pretty solemn promise that we would not do no such thing; and we think that OGDEN and PARVIN might remember it, too."

After the many and very able arguments that have been made by the various writers, as to the impropriety, and the *impossibility* of having anything whatever to do with the so called Colored Lodges and Chapters, we think that whole "subject" should be consigned to—well, say to the "Tomb of oblivion."

EDWARD S. DANA, re-elected G. H. P. W. S. WHITCOMB, re-elected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA, 1877.

The Annual Convocation was held in the City of Richmond, December 13th. M.: E.: Comp. WM. H. LAMBERT, G.: H.: Priest. 22 Chapters represented.

We quote from the address of the Grand High Priest ;

"In the earliest days of Operative Masonry, the great object of the master builders was to erect beautiful and substantial edifices, with foundations so deeply laid, and superstructure so skillfully cemented together, that the ravages of time might be defied, and their magnificent specimens of skill, surviving for ages, should be monuments to future generations of their genius and greatness.

"When Speculative succeeded Operative Masonry, the great and good who were its founders, had a nobler end in view. Their ambition was of a loftier and more exalted type—to elevate their race, to render man a wiser and a happier being, and to inculcate those sublime doctrines of Eternal Truth, a knowledge and practice of which would fit them as living stones in that Spiritual Temple, that House not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

"Thus far our system has withstood the combined forces and crusades of its enemies, and each succeeding blow has only served, like the pressure on the well constructed arch, to draw its several parts more closely and securely together. Our institution is founded on the principles of Truth, its foundation being the word of God, and whilst we rigidly adhere to its teachings, and cleave unto the Ancient Landmarks of our Fathers, never sanctioning a departure from them, all will be well with us.

"Whilst looking to the future with *Excelsior* as our watchword, it still behooves us to review the past, that its errors may be corrected ; conscious of our many shortcomings as a Royal Craft, and in no spirit of vain boasting, we are rejoiced to be able to proclaim that its mission has not been in vain, and that throughout the broad expanse of our beloved country its benign teachings have been made manifest, 'Peace being in our walls and prosperity in our palaces.'

The Grand High Priest, on behalf of the Grand Chapter, returns thanks to the various Grand Chapters for honoring their illustrious dead.

He decided that a Companion, (the Secretary), who was elected High Priest, but who had never served as King or Scribe, could not be installed, and says, (and we fully concur in every word):

"Were the law changed, I am not aware that it would be any violation of the ancient landmarks ; but from a careful observance of its workings, for many years, I am convinced of its beneficial results. In my experience of nearly a quarter of a century, in both Lodge and Chapter, I have witnessed brilliant Masonic meteors flash in our Halls, who were all zeal and eloquence, who, disdaining to fill the humbler positions, aspired to the highest posts of honor, unskilled in the Ritual, ignorant of our laws, and unimbued with the fundamental principles of Masonry, their career was soon ended, they became drones in the hive, and soon passed into obscurity. Not so with those who, by regular succession, have attained the posts of honor ; you see them in your tabernacle to-night, old, well tried veterans, presenting an impenetrable bulwark to all innovations. I make these re-

marks, having observed in some of our Sister jurisdictions a desire to have this regulation so changed as to render any one eligible to the highest position in the Chapter without having filled the other chairs."

The above decision, we have no doubt, will by many be considered a hard case—we know how it is ourselves, we have been there,—a number of years ago we were also elected from the secretary's desk to the position of High Priest, but the powers that be, declined to install us; a new election was ordered and a most worthy Companion, recently deceased, though unable to do the work, was elected High Priest, and we King. For twelve months we performed all the duties of High Priest, and under the circumstances did so willingly. We think it did not hurt us one bit, the experience gained by the service fitted us all the better for the duties of the office, when we were duly inducted into it; but, unfortunately, as the M.: E.: Grand High Priest says, too many "unskilled in the Ritual" and ignorant of the "fundamental principles of Masonry," aspire for the highest posts of honor "disdaining to fill the humbler positions."

This is what he says in regard to Reports on Correspondence:

"The report on Foreign Correspondence, though brief from necessity, will give you general information of the status of the Royal Craft throughout this continent. Through the courtesy of the Grand Secretary, I have been furnished with the proceedings of the various Grand Chapters, and commencing with Maine (for in our boyhood days we were taught so to begin), I have read through the *pile*; on laying down that of Maine, Companion Drummond's elicited our warm admiration; but on reviewing the others we had to give up in despair, and award praises to them all. Had I ever entertained doubts of the utility of these reports, which I never have, they would certainly now be removed, and I conscientiously believe that if all of our members were required to read and digest the valuable information contained in the reports on Foreign Correspondence, they would rise from their tasks better men and Masons."

A proposition was made to eliminate the Past Master's degree from the Chapter series, which was postponed until the next convocation.

Comp. WM. B. ISAACS presented a very brief Report on Correspondence, he acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, and although Maryland for 1876 is among the number, yet he does not give us even a passing notice. For two years our nearest neighbor has entirely neglected our jurisdiction.

This is the manner in which he commences his review:

"Economy! economy!!—not parsimony—is the watch-word. We resume the reportorial pen with much diffidence and with many misgivings. It would be a great pleasure to us to gather up from the Reports on Foreign Correspondence on our table, the intellectual sprays of mignonette, of bridal wreaths, the tuber roses, the callas, the turnips, the cabbages and

the 'ingons' with which they abound, and place them in our bouquet, making it homogeneous, partaking of their beauty and fragrance, and rendering it as substantial in all its parts as they are; but alas, alas, the necessity for *brevity* stares us point blank in the face, thus depriving you of the delicious repast we have enjoyed. It is ever pleasant to have a chat with our familiar friends, 'specially when one can talk *ad libitum*. Had we a telephone to echo our words of cheer and gratulations to the semi-hundred Committees on Correspondence, and the thousand and one individuals with whom we are *now* in silent communication, *then* we could indulge our pleasure, for *that* would cost *only* breath. But we are dependent on 'printer's ink,' and *that* takes the Spondulix. The finances of our Grand Chapter do not justify its expenditure in the indulgence of our '*cacothés scribendi*.' We *must* therefore confine ourselves to our text, even at the hazard of the displeasure of our associates in the M. A. Society, and will bravely bare our backs to their whips, even though they may cause us, like Nicanor, 'to lie down dead in our harness.' We can find no room for 'multiplying visions or using similitudes.' We *must* crave your clemency, while extending our hand in a generous, cordial, how-d'y-e-do way, and confine ourselves solely to a reproduction of such decisions in jurisprudence of the several Grand High Priests as may have been affirmed by their respective Grand Chapters."

We quote from his conclusion :

"The Council Degrees were surrendered by the Grand Council of Virginia to its Grand Chapter in 1841, and since that period have been a prerequisite to the Royal Arch Degree. We cherish the hope that the present very earnest agitation of the subject will afford us all light, and result in giving to those beautiful and impressive waifs a secure and satisfactory abiding place, such as they have enjoyed in this jurisdiction for the last past thirty-six years."

We believe those degrees are worked in Virginia in precisely the same manner they were in our jurisdiction for sixty years, (up to 1872), in councils specially convened for the time being and before the Royal Arch.

The corps reportorial are thus complimented, (over the left shoulder):

"But in reading some of these reports we are often reminded of an anecdote we heard in our boyhood, as occurring in Kentucky or New York. We have forgotten which. It is immaterial. Some young fellows were skylarking through the country, and meeting a negro they saluted him: 'Good morning, old man, how d'y'e do?' 'Right well, gemmem; how is you?' 'You live in this neighborhood, old man?' 'Dat I does!' 'Work on a farm?' 'No, gemmens, I preaches.' Ah! I suppose you get good pay?' 'Well, yes, they gives me ten dollars a year.' 'Why, old man, that's d—n poor pay.' 'Yes, gemmem, but it is d—n poor preach.' There, we have perpetrated our joke, and are so lost in the maze of our temerity as to cause us to forget its intended application. Certainly it don't apply to the reports on Foreign Correspondence in either of the jurisdictions, wherein it is said to have occurred, except in so far as it is poor pay for such 'preaching' as they give. We suppose, however, their respective chairmen have as great a love for their annual labor as we profess to have for ours, and therefore we have no right to enter complaint."

Comp. ALFRED S. LEE, G.: H.: P.: WM. B. ISAACS, G.: Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1878.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Milwaukee, February 19th. M.: E.: Comp. WILLIAM C. SWAIN, G.: H.: P.: 49 Chapters represented.

The Grand High Priest decided that

“Only a Present or Past High Priest is competent to install the officers of a Chapter.”

And, “that it was necessary for an officer who was re-elected to be re-installed,” and in both of which we concur.

He reports in full the very lengthy opinion of M.: E.: Comp. ENGLISH, G.: G.: H.: P.:, on the Sprague case.

We most heartily endorse the following from his conclusion :

“There is something to do besides making Masons. I cannot do better than to reiterate my remark of last year, that there are other reasons for a Chapter to be, and other Masonic lessons to be received, than learning to repeat the ritual, like a parrot, and rehearsing it to a candidate in a monotonous manner, without heart or feeling. And no officer of a Masonic Body is competent for his position, or to confer a degree upon a candidate, until he has learned those lessons. When the officers of a Chapter become imbued with the principles which the ritual symbolizes, and search into the esoteric meaning of the symbols; study the jurisprudence of the Order, read the discussions by the Masonic scholars of the country, which are generally embodied in the Reports on Correspondence, and impart the information they have gained to their Companions, they will not be members of weak Chapters, no matter how small in numbers or poor in purse. And when a Chapter has such officers, it is exceedingly unwise if it changes them before it is able to replace them with others equally good.

“I am happy to be able to mention one Chapter, Excelsior, No. 40, which has always been a *live* body, whose High Priest, not having the usual amount of work on hand, has taken these measures to keep alive the interest of his Companions, and instituted a series of debates, at his Convocations, upon current subjects of Masonic interest, and upon questions of jurisprudence, varied occasionally by lectures from well-informed members of the Craft. His method of awakening interest, so far, has been completely successful, and has had a tendency to increase the distate for levity and boyishness, formerly so prevalent, and he now rejoices in the temporary absence of candidates for our mysteries. I say temporary, because the very means he has adopted to awaken interest, will soon lead good men to seek our portals.”

Every word in the above meets our hearty concurrence.

In our younger days in Masonry, very frequently there was no Work offering for months at a time, yet, we would have gone without dinner, and supper too, any time, rather than to miss a Lodge meeting. There was always something to make the meeting interesting, either a lecture by the Master or some competent brother, some question of usage or jurisprudence would be discussed, or the Master would often catechise the brethren in the

rituals of the degrees. We regret to say very little of this character is to be seen now in our Lodges or Chapters.

The Special Committee to whom the subject of the Council degrees was referred, reported the following recommendations, which were unanimously adopted:

“*First.* That the Council degrees be received under the charge and control of the Grand Chapter.

“*Second.* That the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master be conferred upon all who are Royal Arch Masons at the date of the consummation of this plan, without charge.

“*Third.* That a committee of three be appointed by the Most E.: Gr.: High Priest, to act in conjunction with a similar committee from the Grand Council, to carry these recommendations into effect, and to definitely settle all the preliminaries for the transfer of the degrees of the Council to the Chapter.

“*Fourth.* The arrangements entered into by this joint committee, when approved by the Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, and the M.: I.: Grand Master of the Grand Council, and published to the several Chapters and Councils, shall be the law of this jurisdiction until otherwise ordered.”

Comp. J. P. C. COTTRILL presented the Report on Correspondence, and in which he reviews the proceedings of 35 Grand Chapters, Maryland for 1877, among the number.

Under California, relative to the Council Degrees, he has the following:

“We hope every Grand Chapter will, before the next tri-ennial, take similar action. It is very desirable, we think, that this should be done, and we very greatly regret that it could not have been constitutionally done at Buffalo. All the Grand Chapters, whose proceedings we have seen up to this time, favor it; all, we hope, will favor it as fast as presented to them. There may be a question as to whether the Royal Master's degree should precede or follow the Royal Arch degree; but we regard that even as not especially important, though we incline to the opinion that it should precede it.”

We are pleased to notice, from the following, under District of Columbia, that he is on our side on the previous service question:

“He, (Comp. McGROTTRY), does not believe with WIGGIN (and who does?) that a brother can be elected as Master who has never served as Warden, clearly stating the single exception, arising *ex necessitate*, of the formation of a new Lodge, wherein none of those named in the dispensation have held the office of Warden.”

Reviewing report of Comp. DRUMMOND, on the same subject, he says:

“He is opposed to making service, as King or Scribe, a prerequisite to election as High Priest, because it substitutes, as he states it, rotation for fitness. It seems to us that the best place where fitness for the office of High Priest can be acquired, is in the office of King or Scribe; and that the reason of the old lodge rule, requiring service as Warden before election as Master, applies equally in the Chapter.”

He gives a resume of our transactions for 1877.

Of us personally he is pleased to say :

"Companion SCHULTZ presented a most excellent report upon correspondence, reviewing forty volumes and covering one hundred and sixty-six pages. On reflection, we think it should rather be termed a Royal Arch than a most excellent report—but it is both.

"He believes that the objector is sole judge as to his objection. He gravely agrees with the Arkansas action that a failure for two years to secure a quorum, coupled with the want of congeniality of Masonic atmosphere, is good cause for the surrender of a charter. He thinks Lodge rule should prevail as to exaltation to the office of High Priest from the floor; and rightly, he wants all the landmarks not merely thrown at, but showered upon WIGGIN for heresy on this subject and for his notion that an elected officer can resign.

Full notice of Wisconsin for 1877 is given with assent to diverse views then expressed by us, which, coming from so distinguished a Companion, is very agreeable to us."

We must be permitted to say that this very flattering commendation of our report, coming, as it does, from one of such recognized ability as Comp. COTTRILL, is *most* "agreeable to us."

Reviewing the report of Comp. BURNHAM of Rhode Island, he says :

"It is rather more boiled down than ours are commonly charged with being. Reviewing California for 1876, he regrets that it was there advocated that the Grand Master's power to issue dispensations is derived from the Grand Lodge, and is not part of his prerogative. We fully agree to this regret. The proposition has no ground to stand upon. MACKAY justly says in substance, that as a rule no Lodge can be legally held except under warrant (or charter) from the Grand Lodge; but that the Grand Master may suspend the rule by dispensation, and that a dispensation therefor is such a suspension given in the exercise of the Grand Master prerogatives. We suppose, however, the constitution may regulate the manner of applying for such a dispensation; but its grant is clear prerogative action."

He concludes his report in this wise :

"And so we reach the ninety-sixth legal cap page of our manuscript, having gone through with all the proceedings received.

"REPORTER.—Say, good pen, art thou weary?"

"PEN.—Nay, sir, but I fear your head and brain may have tired."

"REPORTER.—Not so, good pen, but I ask you if your point has become sharpened or callous in the journey we have made?"

"PEN.—Not so, sir, its direction is to kindness and to fair report and criticism. Shall it serve you more?"

"REPORTER.—Yes—say, yet, that Royal Arch Masonry flourishes healthily; that all our brethren to us have been most kind; that we gratefully acknowledge all their words of courtesy and praise; and, say further and most kindly, a sweet good-by to all."

"PEN.—Sir, it has been surely done."

Comp. OLIVER LIBBEY, G. L. P. JOHN W. WOODHULL, G. Sec'y.
J. P. C. COTTRILL, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

GRAND LODGE OF
MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1878.

The half yearly Communication was held at Freemasons' Tavern, (in the City of London we presume).

The M.: W.: Bro. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Limerick, G.: M.: M.: M.: We notice that twenty-one Grand Officers are required in this Grand body, a number of them entirely unknown as the Mark degree is worked with us.

We learn that, "during the six months ending 31st March, 1878, they issued 612 certificates, bringing the number of brethren registered, as having been advanced under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to a total of 11,078."

In the same period, there were granted warrants for 12 new Lodges.

The "General Board" report with great satisfaction, two communications from Comp. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, General Grand Secretary, embodying the formal recognition of the Grand Lodge by the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

A Past Grand Master's jewel was presented to Bro. the Earl of Limerick, P.: G.: M.:

Bro. the Lord SKELMERSDALE was elected M.: W.: G.: M.: Master.

CONCLUSION.

We have arrived at "conclusion" in our third Annual Review of the Capitular Jurisdictions with which the Grand Chapter of Maryland is in Correspondence.

The proceedings reviewed are contained in forty-two pamphlets ranging generally from 100 to 300 pages each, making altogether over 5000 pages printed matter.

As the space allowed for these reports is limited, it becomes necessary to select only such extracts and comments upon them, as may be deemed of the most interest and importance, to do which, among so much that is of great interest, is no easy matter, it being really easier to make a report of 200 than of 100 pages.

We have copied somewhat fully the comments, of the various writers, upon our jurisdiction, and in so doing may have laid ourselves open to the charge of vanity or egotism, but whilst giving some notices complimentary to ourselves, we have in no instance withheld any adverse criticism upon our previous reports.

We have expressed our views on some questions that for years past have been discussed by the various writers on Masonry, and the repetition of them may seem to some superfluous, but noticing, and we do so with regret, that many and among them distinguished members of the Order, disposed to set aside well defined landmarks and ancient usages of the Craft, and simply "because they can see no necessity for the requirement of them at this day," we deemed it our duty to combat their opinions with all the force within our power, believing that if these things be not firmly adhered to, the days of our institution are numbered.

In our humble opinion the reasons why Freemasonry has stood these many years, surviving political revolutions and change of governments, are that its teachings are adapted to the needs of every condition of humanity, and also, and to a great degree, to the fact that its peculiar laws and regulations are adapted to any age, to any country, and to every form of government. If the regulations, regarding the operative feature of Masonry, be taken from the very oldest printed regulations of which we have any knowledge, they will answer fully for all the requirements of the present age, and, we believe, for all future ages. Everyone, therefor, who loves the institution of Free Masonry and desires its perpetuation, should frown down all innovations, come from whatsoever source they may.

The proposition started by Mississippi, a few years since, to transfer the Council degrees to the control of the Chapter, is engaging the attention of the various jurisdictions; and as our Grand Chapter six years ago, in order to be in unison with other jurisdictions, changed the mode of conferring those degrees, that for so many years prevailed in this jurisdiction, may now, in order to be again in unison with other jurisdictions, desire ere long to reconsider that action. We have given the action of the various jurisdictions upon the subject, and now present, (as a matter of reference,) a recapitulation of the same:

The Grand Chapter of Arkansas appointed a committee to confer with a similar Committee from the Grand Council.

The Grand Chapter of California deferred action until the next Convocation.

The Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, appointed a committee of conference.

The Grand Chapter of Illinois, a committee of conference and with power to make the transfer, and which has since been consummated.

The Grand Chapter of Iowa appointed a committee to report next year.

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina appointed a committee of conference.

The Grand Chapter of Oregon appointed a committee of conference.

The Grand Chapter of Nebraska favors the transfer and referred the subject to the subordinate Chapters.

The Grand Chapter of Tennessee appointed a committee of conference

The Grand Chapter of Kentucky appointed committee of conference, and have since made the transfer.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin appointed a committee of conference with power to act.

The Grand Chapter of Missouri appointed a committee with power to make the transfer.

The Grand Chapter of Nevada endorses and favors the plan.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina appointed a committee to confer with the Grand Council and to report at the next Annual Convocation.

While Mississippi, Virginia, West Virginia and Texas have already made the transfer, and now confer the degrees in Councils attached to the Chapters, or in Councils specially convened for the time being. Only one or two jurisdictions have taken decided action adversely. The most of the Correspondence writers favor the transfer.

As our views upon the subject have been frequently expressed, we will not at this time intrude them, but leave the matter in the hands of the Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted,

E. T. SCHULTZ, *Chairman.*

STATISTICS.

PREPARED BY COMPANION J. H. DRUMMOND OF MAINE.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	No. of Subordinates.	Ditto making Returns.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions & Restorations.	Dismissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- pay't dues.	Deaths.	Rejections.
Alabama.....	49	37	1,059	47	27	47	1	2	42	16	3
Arkansas.....	64	40	1,453	67	16	45	1	2	13	28	....
California.....	49	49	2,990	221	62	73	16	0	60	41	14
Canada.....	70	70	3,115	301	178	101	7	*72	....	32	....
Colorado.....	7	7	359	30	....	7	1	*22	....	1	....
Connecticut.....	35	35	3,876	102	38	20	0	4	17	53	....
Delaware.....	6	6	320	26	1	3	0	*10	....	2	....
Dist. of Columbia....	8	8	1,091	71	22	20	....	1	48	15	3
Florida.....	16	8	230	7	4	5	....	*7	....	5	....
Georgia†.....	54	44	1,724	58	20	83	3	....	*101	28	5
Illinois.....	168	168	10,671	549	108	258	18	*394	....	116	4
Indiana.....	95	90	4,875	187	39	105	19	13	100	79	....
Iowa.....	85	82	4,253	353	53	183	8	*51	....	34	....
Kansas.....	35	35	1,149	80	40	36	3	1	42	7	14
Kentucky.....	105	90	3,509	161	51	105	3	*230	....	62	....
Louisiana.....	29	28	1,421	32	26	20	0	0	83	25	0
Maine.....	42	42	4,129	131	14	81	1	*17	1	49	19
Maryland.....	12	12	1,278	45	10	....	....	*21	....	23	0
Massachusetts.....	68	63	9,237	337	....	185	0	*34	....	105	....
Michigan.....	100	99	7,385	415	86	168	9	9	196	80	....
Minnesota.....	31	29	1,623	106	19	20	1	0	37	17	....
Mississippi.....	73	58	1,930	87	39	70	1	5	113	....	....
Missouri.....	89	81	3,935	216	60	121	5	*96	....	52	12
Nebraska.....	15	14	683	50	51	33	2	*25	....	2	....
Nevada.....	8	8	402	26	14	20	0	0	5	1	1
New Hampshire.....	19	19	2,157	103	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
New Jersey.....	35	35	2,834	107	16	15	0	*122	....	38	....
New York.....	191	191	17,642	733	163	314	10	0	118	215	59
North Carolina.....	22	22	912	21	5	7	1	1	0	6	3
Nova Scotia.....	9	9	359	17	1	21	0	0	4	3	0
Ohio.....	136	135	8,464	372	162	193	11	1	350	91	....
Oregon.....	13	13	415	25	11	20	0	0	0	6	1
Pennsylvania†.....	97	96	10,707	729	77	68	....	....	*226	132	....
Quebec.....	9	9	439	30	7	53	....	*6	....	3	....
Rhode Island.....	10	10	1,617	49	....	2	0	2	1	19	5
South Carolina.....	33	25	903	37	9	38	0	1	25	11	....
Tennessee.....	93	81	3,403	95	35	100	4	28	122	57	....
Texas.....	95	95	3,946	428	156	274	7	*152	....	127	....
Vermont.....	25	25	1,837	65	....	13	0	8	....	31	....
Virginia.....	38	33	1,601	72	35	83	2	*37	....	22	....
West Virginia†.....	17	15	509	36	3	16	0	0	11	5	....
Wisconsin.....	53	53	3,133	186	29	104	1	*42	....	27	23
	2,108	1,974	133,645	6901	1687	3145	135	1420	2788	1676	166

* Including suspension for non-payment of dues.

† No returns this year: taken from last year's Table.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

OF MARYLAND.

MASONIC TEMPLE, }
BALTIMORE, November 11th, 1878. }

A meeting of the Council of Anointed High Priests of Maryland, was convened by order of the M.: E.: President, November 11th, 1878, at 4 o'clock P. M.

PRESENT:

Companion JAMES W. BOWERS, . . .	M.: E.: President.
“ GEORGE L. McCAHAN, . . .	E.: Vice President.
“ JAS. B. PURCELL, . . .	E.: Chaplain.
“ WILLIAM A. WENTZ, . . .	E.: Secretary.
“ DAVID HUTZLER, . . .	E.: Treasurer.
“ F. J. S. GORGAS, . . .	E.: Master of Ceremonies
“ E. J. OPPELT, . . .	E.: Conductor.
“ JOHN S. TYSON, . . .	E.: Herald.
“ J. HENRY WEBER, . . .	E.: Steward.
“ CHARLES E. KEMP, . . .	E.: Sentinel.

And Companions OHR, SCHULTZ, EMMONS, PARKER, ACHEY, ADREON, KUGLER, FOX, REESE, COCHRAN, RIEHL, BARRINGTON, IRWIN, SHEIVE, SISCO, MARTIN, WALLER, CARTER, WARFIELD, KREBS, Past High Priests-

The Council of High Priests, was opened in ample form.

The following Companions were introduced, and in due form Anointed, Consecrated and set apart to the order of High Priesthood.

Comp.	JOHN E. McCAHAN,	H.: P.: elect of Concordia Chapter, No. 1.
"	GEO. W. HUSSELL,	" " Phoenix " " 7.
"	C. C. ISAACS,	" " Jerusalem " " 9.
"	DAVID P. WELFLEY,	" " Salem " " 18.
"	M. W. DONAVIN,	" " St. John's " " 19.
"	NATHAN LEHMAN,	" " Adoniram " " 21.
"	THOS. J. SHRYOCK,	" " Druid " " 28.

The M.: E.: President appointed the following

OFFICERS:

Companion	F. J. S. GORGAS,	. . .	E.: M.: of Ceremonies.
"	EDMUND J. OPPELT,	. . .	E.: Conductor.
"	JOHN S. TYSON,	. . .	E.: Herald.
"	J. HENRY WEBER,	. . .	E.: Steward.
"	CHAS. E. KEMP,	. . .	E.: Sentinel.

The Council was closed in ample form.

WILLIAM A. WENTZ,

Secretary.

Address of the Grand High Priest:

EDWIN L. PARKER, Jr.

BALTIMORE, MD.

Address of the Grand Secretary:

WILLIAM A. WENTZ,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Address of the Chairman of Correspondence:

EDWARD T. SCHULTZ,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Address of the Grand Lecturer:

JAMES W. BOWERS,

BALTIMORE, MD.

The next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, will be held in the Masonic Temple, at the City of Baltimore, on Tuesday, November 11th, 1879, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

2/9/2009
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